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**Municipal District of Glenties**

Office of Meetings  
Administrator  
Public Service Centre  
Dungloe

7<sup>th</sup> March, 2023

**NOTICE OF MEETING**

The Municipal District of Glenties Meeting will be held on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> March, 2023 at **11 a.m. in  
Dungloe Public Services Centre.**

**TO EACH MEMBER OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF GLENTIES**

Dear Councillor,

You are summoned to attend this meeting of the Municipal District of Glenties. The Agenda is attached hereto.

Yours Sincerely,

Michael Rowsome  
Meetings Administrator



## Ceantar Bardais Na Gleanntaí

Oifig Riarthóir na  
gCruinnithe  
Ionad Seirbhísí  
Clochán Liath

7ú Márta, 2023

### FOGRA CRUINNITHE

Beidh Cruinniú de Ceantar Bardais Na Gleanntaí ar an **14ú Márta 2023**, ag **11.00 i.n.**, in Oifigí na Comhairle Condae ar an Chlochán Léith.

### DO GACH BHALL DEN CEANTAR BARDAS NA GLEANNTAÍ

A Chara

Iarrtar ort bheith i lathair ag an gcruinniu seo Ceantar Bardais Na Gleanntaí. Ta Clár an Cruinnithe le seo.

Mise, le meas

**Micheál Rowsome**  
Riarthóir Cruinnithe

## **AGENDA**

1. Consideration of the Minutes of Glenties Municipal District Committee Meeting held on the 14<sup>th</sup> February, 2023.
2. Report from Workshop held on 28<sup>th</sup> February, 2023
3. Schedule of Municipal District Works 2023
4. Economic Development, I.S. & Emergency Services
5. Environment
6. Planning
7. Community Development
8. Roads Services
9. Housing & Corporate Services

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF GLENTIES  
MUNICIPAL DISTRICT COMMITTEE**  
held in Dungle Public Services Centre on 14<sup>th</sup> February 2023

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**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Cllr. Anthony Molloy (Cathaoirleach)  
Cllr. Michael McClafferty (Leas Cathaoirleach)  
Cllr. Noreen McGarvey  
Cllr. Marie Therese Gallagher  
Clr. John Sheamais Ó Fearraigh  
Clr. Micheal Cholm Mac Giolla Easbuig

**OFFICIALS PRESENT:** Michael McGarvey - Director Water & Environment  
Michael Rowsome - A/Area Manager, Housing & Corporate  
Brendan McFadden - S.E.E - Area Manager, Roads  
Anne Marie McCole - Staff Officer, Community,  
Development & Enterprise Division  
Mary Boyle - A/Senior Staff Officer, Housing & Corporate  
Jim Boner - Senior Executive Engineer, Housing Capital  
Donna Callaghan - Executive Planner  
John McCarron - Senior Executive Engineer, Water &  
Environment  
Ciaran Martin, Senior Economic Development Officer

**Aistriúcháin Comhuaineach:** Dónal Mac Giolla Chóill

**GMD 08/23**

**Confirmation of Minutes of Glenties Municipal District  
Committee Meeting**

On the proposal of Cllr. Gallagher seconded by Cllr. McGarvey, the minutes of the Municipal District Meeting held on the 10<sup>th</sup> January 2023 were confirmed subject to the following amendment:

GMD/3.2/23 "Cllr. Ó Fearraigh asked the Council to also progress housing developments on the Udaras Estate in Gweedore."

**GMD 09/23**

**Workshop Report**

Members noted the report from the Workshop held in Dungloe PSC on 23/01/2023 to discuss proposals presented by the Ionad Cois Locha Clg.

**GMD 10/23**

**Community Development**

The Committee welcomed reports presented by the Community Development Staff Officer at the meeting in relation to the following:

- Community Development Projects
- Social Inclusion
- Donegal Youth Council

The Committee were advised that a DFI Workshop is scheduled at 12 noon on the 28<sup>th</sup> February 2023 in Dungloe PSC and that the closing date for the Community Support Fund is the 9<sup>th</sup> March 2023.

Cllr. Ó Fearraigh requested an update in respect of the status of projects at Muckish and Pobal Eascarrach. Cllr. Gallagher requested the Council to liaise with the Fintown Community Group who are attempting to rejuvenate facilities in proximity to the lake. Cllr. Gallagher also requested a report on the status of funding received for the provision of a bus shelter in Dungloe and highlighted the difficulties experienced by Coach Operators in their attempts to access the public car park.

Cllr. Molloy requested the provision of a bus shelter in proximity to the Texaco Station in Ardara.

**GMD 11/23**

**Planning**

The Committee noted the reports circulated with the agenda regarding:

- Development Application Statistics
- Enforcement Cases
- Schedule of Planning Clinics

- Regeneration & Development Reports
- Capital Projects Delivery Unit

**GMD 12/23**

### **Environment**

The Committee noted the reports circulated previously and presented by the Senior Executive Engineer in relation to the following:

- Green Hub Pilot Launch on 28<sup>th</sup> February
- Water Quality Public Service Announcements
- Septic tank National Inspection Plan

Cllr. Molloy requested the provision of bins at Glengesh and at Narin beach.

Clr. Mac Giolla Easbuig asked the Environment Service to investigate odours emanating from behind the former Dodge Hotel and to provide a bin for Dungloe playground.

Clr. Ó Fearraigh requested the Council to make representations to the Department regarding septic tank owners who are not registered on the prescribed date (1st February 2013) and who are ineligible for grant funding to repair faulty systems.

Clr. Ó Fearraigh also requested an update on the status of recycling facilities within Gweedore Industrial Estate.

## **12.1**

### **Dungloe Recycling Facility**

A lengthy debate ensued in relation to communications surrounding the provision of 24hr recycling facilities in Dungloe.

The Director apologised for any misunderstanding or absence of communications with Members in relation to this issue.

On the proposal of Cllr. Mac Giolla Easbuig seconded by Cllr. Gallagher, the Committee recommended the provision of 24hr recycling facilities at Super Value in Dungloe.

Economic Development, I.S. & Emergency

The Committee noted the reports circulated with the Agenda & presented by Ciaran Martin, Senior Economic Development Officer regarding the following:

- Work Programmes
- Economic Development Unit
- Tourism Marketing Unit
- Trail Gazers Bid Project
- Strategic Funding Unit
- Donegal Diaspora Unit
- Local Enterprise Office
- Emergency Services- Fire Service

The Senior Executive Development Officer provided Members with a further update in respect of the Relocation Marketing Campaign, proposed Launch of 2023 Tourism Brochure and Donegal Presentation at the Holiday World Show in the RDS. Members were also informed that Sarah Nolan is the new Head of Tourism.

Cllr. Mc Garvey highlighted the necessity to expedite planning for the 2023 tourism season in relation to implementation of recommendations from the Caravan Camping & Campervan Study.

In response to a query from Cllr. Mac Giolla Easbuig regarding the provision of an acceptable Fire Service on Off-Shore Islands and the provision of a retainer to Island Firefighters, the Senior Executive Development Officer undertook to liaise with the Director of Emergency Services in this regard.

Cllr. Gallagher requested a meeting with the Director of Economic Development, the Head of Tourism and the Mary from Dungloe Festival Committee. Cllr. Gallagher also highlighted the necessity for provision of additional funding to support smaller festivals and Cllr. Molloy supported this recommendation.

In response to a query from Cllr. Gallagher, the Senior Executive Development Officer undertook to follow up with a response in respect of the status of a public transport review.

## **GMD 14/23**

### **Roads**

#### **14.1 Road Programmes**

On the proposal of Clr. Mac Giolla Easbuig seconded by Cllr. Molloy the Committee adopted the following programmes, details of which were circulated at the meeting:

- Restoration Improvement 2023
- Restoration Maintenance 2023
- Community Involvement Schemes 2023
- Drainage Programme 2023

Cllr. Mc Garvey welcomed the recent substantial LIS allocation.

#### **14.2 Public Lighting**

Members highlighted issues regarding public lighting at the following locations:

- N56 - Leitir
- Back of Errigal
- Dunlewey junction
- Gallaghers Bakery

#### **14.3 Road Lining**

Cllr. MC Garvey requested road lining from the red Wheel, Fintown towards Letterkenny.

#### **14.4 Fintown Junction**

In response to concerns expressed by Clr. Mac Giolla Easbuig the Roads Manager undertook to liaise with the Road Design Team.



#### **14.5**      **Cycleway**

Cllr. Gallagher requested a meeting with the NRDO and Tourism Section to market the benefits and availability of this very important asset in the Municipal District.

#### **14.6**      **Maintenance**

Cllr. McGarvey highlighted the poor state of repair of the Glenties/Donegal Road. The Roads Manager advised that the TII have a scheme proposed for this location.

Cllr. Mac Giolla Easbuig advised of remedial works required to a footpath in Loughanure following a recent accident.

#### **GMD15/23**   **Housing / Corporate**

The Committee welcomed the reports circulated with the Agenda in relation to Grants, Casual vacancies, Loans, Tenant Purchase & Housing Need.

#### **15.1**      **Section 183 Disposal**

Members discussed the reports circulated previously and presented by A/Area Manager regarding the disposal of a site and derelict dormer S.I. House contained in Folio No. 81390F.

On the proposal of Cllr. Molloy seconded by Cllr. Ó Fearraigh the Committee recommended that the site at Meenovalley , Ardara be sold in the sum of €43,000 and it is also recommended that the formal process in relation to the disposal of the site vis a vis the issue of notice to each Member of the Council with subsequent consideration by the Plenary Council be commenced.

## 15.2 Painting Programme

The A/Area Manager updated the Committee on the completion of the 2022 Programme and the completion of 46 Units at 6 locations in the Municipal District at a cost of €120,000

## 15.3 Energy Efficiency Retrofit Programme 2023

The A/Manager informed the Committee of ongoing work in progress to determine the suite of works required at 40 No. properties in Falcarragh and Annagry. Cllr. Gallagher outlined the importance of liaising with tenants in respect of the operation of air to water heating systems.

## 15.4 Social Housing Developments

Members welcomed the report circulated with the Agenda and presented by the Senior Housing Engineer regarding the status of the following proposed construction schemes:

- Chapel Road, Dungloe - 45 Units
- Massiness, Creeslough - 3 Units
- Creeslough - 11 Units
- Glenties - 3 Units
- Gweedore - 29 Units

The Senior Engineer further advised the Committee that several suitable sites have been identified across the Municipal District and that the negotiations are ongoing with landowners/agents to acquire these lands.

The Committee also welcomed ongoing engagement with Udaras Na Gaeltachta.

Clr. Mac Giolla Easbuig emphasised the importance of playground provision within any new housing developments.

Clr. Ó Fearraigh requested an update on proposals for the Falcarragh area.

## 15.5 Mortgage Allowance Scheme

Cllr. Gallagher requested information in relation to the availability of this scheme.

**15.6 Votes of Sympathy**

The Committee proposed votes of sympathy to Clr. Ó Fearraigh and the O'Donnell family following recent family bereavements.

**15.7 Schedule of Meetings**

Cllr. Molloy requested Corporate Services to commend Standing Orders to reduce the number of Municipal District Meetings.

**15.7 Leitirmacaward Dispensary**

Cllr. Gallagher recommended that a letter issue to the HSE to upgrade and re-open the Doctor's Dispensary as a matter of urgency.

**15.9 Receptions**

In response to queries from Cllr. Mac Giolla Easbuig regarding presentations to Seamus Mac Ruairí and Pádraig Ó Baoill, the Acting Area Manager of Housing/Corporate requested the Committee to agree date, time, location and attendees to be invited to the receptions.

**15.10 Magheraroarty Development**

Clr. Mac Giolla Easbuig requested the Council to expedite the scheduling of a meeting with Údaras/An Roinn/Council Staff regarding a Masterplan for this location.

The Director undertook to convene a staff meeting of relevant Council officials prior to meeting Members at a workshop on the 28<sup>th</sup> February at 2pm. to discuss proposals for a strategic development at Magheraroarty.

**15.10 Coiste na Gaeilge**

Cllr. Mac Giolla Easbuig informed Members that the next meeting will be held on 23<sup>rd</sup> February in Glenfinn.

**This Concluded the Business of the Meeting**



## **Report from Workshop of Glenties Municipal District Committee**

**held in Dungloe Public Services Centre on 28<sup>th</sup> February 2023**

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**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Cllr. Anthony Molloy (Cathaoirleach)  
Cllr. Marie Therese Gallagher  
Cllr. Noreen McGarvey  
Clr.Micheál MacGiolla Easbuig  
Clr.John Sheamais Ó Fearraigh

**OFFICIALS PRESENT:** Michael McGarvey -A/Director Water & Environment  
Michael Rowsome - A/Area Manager, Housing & Corporate  
Anne Marie McCole- Community Development  
Jamie Gallagher, Roads Engineer  
Eugene Allen - Marine Engineer

**APOLOGIES:** Cllr. Michael McClafferty

The Director updated Members in relation to a meeting held on 24/02/2023 attended by Council staff from Corporate, Marine, Roads, Community Development, Environment & Economic Development services to discuss proposals for the development of a masterplan for the Magheraroarty area.

Members were advised that there was consensus at the meeting to develop terms of reference to facilitate engagement of a Consultant to produce an agreed strategic plan, in consultation with all relevant stakeholders.

The Director advised that a further meeting would be convened before the end of March regarding draft terms of reference, prior to meeting with Údaras & An Roinn.

Members suggested that the Director of Community Development & Planning Services be invited to participate in the drafting of terms of reference, that the Community & Culture SPC be updated in respect of any proposals & that the Council consult with the NPWS regarding SPA/SAC designations.

**THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS OF THE WORKSHOP**



**Comhairle Contae  
Dhún na nGall**  
Donegal County Council

**Economic Development, Information Systems & Emergency Services Directorate**

**Glenties Municipal District Report March 2023**

**Content**

- 1. Economic Development**
  - 1.1 Economic Development Unit**
  - 1.2 Tourism Marketing Unit**
  - 1.3 Trail Gazers Bid Project**
  - 1.4 Strategic Funding Unit**
  - 1.5 Donegal Diaspora Unit**
- 2. Local Enterprise Office**
- 3. Emergency Services – Fire Services**

# 1. Division: Economic Development

## 1.1 Economic Development Unit

### Project / Activity Report

Title	Economic Development Unit
Countywide	<p><b>Property Solutions:</b> The team is progressing 13 property solution opportunities across the county. These are queries relating to the purchase of council owned lands for Economic Development purposes.</p> <p><b>Killybegs Marine Cluster:</b> Work with the Killybegs Marine Cluster is ongoing and the group recently supported a new pilot schools programme via the Alpha Innovation Centre and a publicity campaign highlighting opportunities in the blue economy.</p> <p><b>Caravan, Camping and Campervan Study:</b> recommendations from the Caravan, Camping and Campervan study are being implemented along with internal and external stakeholders. This includes a review of Aire de Service locations, grant support for overnight facilities and the updating of marketing information for the sector. DCC recently hosted meetings with the Internal and External Steering groups on the study to advise and plan for actions in 2023.</p> <p><b>Remote Working Strategy:</b> The first Donegal Hubs Forum meeting took place in 2023 online on the 18th of January with a new Cathaoirleach Míchéal Ó Duibhir from Gteic@Gaoth Dobhair.</p> <p><b>#BuyDonegal 2022:</b> #BuyDonegal 2022 has concluded supporting over 350 businesses to showcase Donegal business to a global audience. The campaign reached 7.5 million across social media with 97% of businesses, who provided campaign feedback, stated a willingness to participate in a future such campaign.</p> <p><b>Relocation Marketing Campaign:</b> A relocation marketing campaign to attract talent nationally and from overseas kicked off on Jan 30<sup>th</sup> supported by two showreel videos and testimonials from those who have relocated, to encourage people to #MoveToDonegal. So far it has reached over 3 million across all social media platforms and received over 50 relocation enquiries.</p>

**InvestDonegal Communications Update:** Latest key stats for the InvestDonegal LinkedIn, Twitter, Instagram and web accounts are as follows;

	Impressions (last 28 days)	Total Followers
Linked In	80,565	4,613 (+108)
Twitter	714,000	2,811 (+105)
Instagram	193,622	3,792 (=74)
Facebook	389,425	1,883 (+50)
Donegal.ie	22K Web Users (4 weeks 3 February – 2 March)	
	10 News Items Published	

**Shared Island:** Donegal County Council were awarded funding for a series of new innovative projects under the Irish Government’s Shared Island Local Authority Development Funding Scheme and will be working in partnership with Derry City and Strabane District Council and Fermanagh and Omagh District Council in the coming year. The Economic Development Unit will be leading out on four projects and are currently scoping requirements for feasibility assessment and governance structures, in preparation for procurement of consultants in early 2023.

- **The North West Regulatory Tech Cluster project** is a proposal to develop an all-island national institute in Regulatory Technology (‘RegTech’) in the North West with partners Derry City and Strabane District Council, Catalyst and ATU. A Project Board has been established to oversee feasibility assessment and a scoping study, business case and economic appraisal will be procured during March 2023. Industry and stakeholder engagement commenced with a series of events in February 2023 to help shape the scope of the project.
- **Innovation Plaza** to develop cross-border enterprise opportunities in sectors such as renewable energy, advanced manufacturing & engineering and agri-food. Initial project scoping has been carried out. Tender documents currently being finalised for publishing in the coming days.



- **Regenerative Tourism** involving engagement with the region’s place, past and people, seeking to attract high-yield environmentally conscious visitors. DCC is leading the project with project partners Fermanagh and Omagh District Council. The initial scoping requirements are completed with procurement of consultants in March 2023 to deliver on option appraisal, business case and economic appraisal and an stakeholder engagement plan.
- **Slí Cholmcille Project** is a proposed 250 km pilgrimage route linking key Colmcille related sites across Donegal and Derry, with the ambition to link across NI to Scotland. DCC is leading feasibility assessment with partners Derry City & Strabane District Council and Slí Cholmcille CLG. A project board has been established and a scoping study, business case and economic appraisal will be procured during March 2023. Scoping will include route development and identification of capital infrastructure and marketing requirements.

**North West City Region:** Donegal County Council continue to work in partnership with Derry City and Strabane District Council on a number of key projects for supporting and stimulating Inward Investment in the region.

- **Inward Investment Strategy:** both councils are finalising the development of pitch propositions focusing on key investment sectors. These propositions will form the basis of future promotion of the region for inward investment and will articulate the competitive strengths and opportunities in the region. Both Councils are also developing new branding for the region and are exploring development of the irelandmnw.com website.
- **Talent Solutions:** both councils are working with Abodoo to develop a mapping platform to demonstrate the range of skills in the region to help attract FDI to the Northwest of Ireland. Both Councils are currently working with key stakeholders to identify how best to target employers and employees to engage with online surveys and have drafted an updated communications plan to target business events, networks and digital hub locations.
- **Communications:** The EDU continue to collaborate with DCSDC on promoting the North West City Region for investment and business opportunities including via LinkedIn and Twitter platforms. This work will tie into the Inward Investment Strategy in the coming year, with a current focus on the Talent Solutions survey. Both Councils conducted joint

	<p>communications to promote the Investment Event held in Dublin and are working as part of the proposition development for future events.</p> <p>You can follow respective LinkedIn and Twitter Platforms : @NorthWestCityRegionIreland</p> <p><b>Atlantic Economic Corridor:</b> The Donegal County Council are working with Local Authority partners along the western coast to progress mutually beneficial projects and initiatives around economic development.</p> <p>2023 will see a focus on the area of Innovation within the region as well as a continued focus on promoting employment opportunities and development of the digital hub network.</p> <p><b>Concierge Service:</b> The EDU are available to support existing businesses, potential business start-ups or businesses looking to relocate or wishing to expand and who need advice on accessing a wide range of Council services and supports including broadband connectivity. Please contact the EDU by email <a href="mailto:economicdevelopment@donegalcoco.ie">economicdevelopment@donegalcoco.ie</a>.</p>
<b>Contact Person</b>	<p>Ciaran Martin - <a href="mailto:ciaran.martin@donegalcoco.ie">ciaran.martin@donegalcoco.ie</a> (086) 8261760</p> <p>Rosita Mahony – <a href="mailto:rosita.mahony@donegalcoco.ie">rosita.mahony@donegalcoco.ie</a> (087) 2510128</p>

**1.2 Tourism Marketing Unit**

**Project / Activity Report**

<b>Glenties MD</b>	<p><b>Age Friendly Beach, Nairn:</b> Donegal Tourism will now sit on a strategic working group to secure the first Age-Friendly beach in Ireland for Nairn. (Meeting 2<sup>nd</sup> March).</p>
<b>Countywide</b>	<p><b>TBEX:</b> TBEX Europe, one of three worldwide conferences hosted by TBEX each year, is Europe’s largest gathering of travel bloggers, writers, new media content creators, and social media travel industry professionals.</p> <p>The Tourism Unit pitched to secure TBEX for Donegal and have been successful in this bid for 2025.</p>

**Tourism Seminar:** The Donegal Tourism Seminar is open for registration. The theme is, 'Emerging Trends and Opportunities' which will take place on 30th March in Letterkenny.

The day will have a packed programme, filled with insights and workshops delivered by tourism experts, who will be on hand to provide inspiration, practical advice, and an opportunity to re-connect, celebrate, inform, and steer the future of tourism in Donegal.

**TIDE Project:** The final output of this project is now underway with the procurement of models of the ship Saldanha. A tender is currently being drafted for these models.

Tender assessment will take place in April with a view to delivery of models in July. The final conference of the TIDE Project will take place, over two days, in Sligo in May.

**Tourism Ireland Glasgow Promotion:** Donegal Tourism has been selected by Tourism Ireland to promote the county in Glasgow in March.

Donegal Tourism will participate at the St Patrick's "Family Day" consumer promotion is being held in Merchant Square, Glasgow. In addition to the consumer event there is an evening event which will provide the opportunity to network with market-based Scottish travel trade.

**Go Visit Donegal Platform:** Website traffic 1st – 22nd February was slightly up vs the same period in 2022

Page views: 33,996 (up 13.6%) / Users: 12,055 (up 14.8%)

Website views by country:

1st-22nd February 2023

Traffic came from 83 countries in total

**Website Development – govisitdonegal.com:** Website upgrade work is currently being finalised, which will include:

- New regional pages with a click-through map
- Contributions of content (information, images) for each of the 5 MDs will be sought from businesses in addition to upcoming activities and events in the towns and villages in each region.

- New search bar has been added to the Festivals & Events and Accommodation pages.
- Instagram feed on the Home Page has been updated.
- Website search has been improved to accommodate typo-tolerant search.
- Website footer has been updated incl. social media icons.
- Improvements to the website backend functionality.

**Holiday World Show 2023 – post event update**

**Holiday World Show 2023 attendance figures**

	Trade/Media only	Public	Total	Exhibitors
Dublin	700	31,600	32,300	450

Competition: 12 prizes / Competition Winners announced:

<https://www.govisitdonegal.com/home/holiday-world-show-2023-competition-winners>

Promo video from the event has been published on the Go Visit Donegal YouTube Channel: <https://youtu.be/UySFAtkA9fs>

**Donegal Airport Marketing Collaboration:**

- Tourism Unit continues to support Donegal Airport and promote the Go Visit Donegal brand through an advertising campaign at the airport.
- This campaign will run from March – December 2023. This will feature an online banner ad with the click-through link to the govisitdonegal.com website, as well as 2 lightbox displays; one in the main waiting area, and one in the Luggage Reclaim. The design for these advertisements is currently in print.

**Caravan & Camping Group Meetings:**

- A representative is currently engaging with the internal and external Caravan and Camping Group meetings on an ongoing basis to provide marketing assistance.

- In addition, there is continual work on Go Visit Donegal website updates, development of an online campaign, and future signage for the caravan and camping sector.

**Regional Festival Funding:** The Tourism Unit is inviting applications for funding under the Regional Festivals & Participative Events Programme.

The application has been advertised on the DCC website, social media, and on Go Visit Donegal social media channels.

These include-

- A radio advertisement will run on both Highland Radio and Ocean FM until 16<sup>th</sup> March.
- An online advertising banner featured on the Highland radio website.
- A newsletter has been sent out to the festival database and other tourism partners.
- Details have been shared with the PPN group for wider circulation to community groups.

**Northwest City Region Marketing Campaign:** Donegal County Council and Derry City & Strabane District Council (DCSDC) are working with Genesis, create a co-ordinated regional marketing campaign that aligns with local, national and regional tourism strategies and will support the NW City Region where tourism has been identified as a key proposition.

£30,000 has been granted by NWRDF for this campaign which will go live in March. A number of meetings with Genesis has taken place in relation to the delivery of the marketing campaign.

The campaign will consist of the following elements:

- Regional PR campaign, targeting regional media and travel media.
- Digital campaign on the govisitdonegal.com and visitderry.com
- Facebook Advertising.
- Radio.
- A competition that will provide a database for future targeting.

	<p><b>Donegal Tourism Marketing Campaign:</b> eTenders was used as a platform to manage the procurement of this campaign, and all tenders were required to be submitted via this portal which closed in February.</p> <p>A selection panel has evaluated the tenders using the pre-specified scoring criteria. An agreed number of companies have been invited to present their proposal ideas prior to a final decision.</p> <p><b>Donegal Derry Campaign:</b> Donegal and Derry/ Londonderry continue the joint promotion of the region.</p> <p>The Northwest City region enjoyed exposure to an online audience of over 80,000 when Laura Dove, a family influencer visited the region for 5 nights.</p> <p>This was a collaboration between Donegal, Derry and Ryanair to promote the Derry to Manchester flight.</p>
<b>Contact Person</b>	<p>Sarah Nolan Acting Head of Tourism sarahnolan@donegalcoco.ie 087 2691977</p>

### **1.3 Trail Gazers Bid Project**

#### **Project / Activity Report**

<b>Activity / Project Title</b>	Trail Gazers Bid Project
<b>Activity / Project Description</b>	‘To quantify the return to the local economy for every euro invested in walks and recreational trail infrastructure ‘
<b>Budget</b>	€2.6 M
<b>Progress to date within quarter* - inclusive of current status</b>	<p>In 2018, Donegal County Councils Research &amp; Policy Unit successfully led an application to the Atlantic Area Programme under objective 4.2 ‘Enhancing natural and cultural assets to stimulate economic development’.</p> <p>This transnational project is managed by the Research &amp; Policy Unit (Lead Partner), working with 9 different partners located across Ireland, UK, France, Spain and Portugal.</p>

The project sets out to:

- Quantify the impact of key strategic investments in walks and recreational trail infrastructure can have on stimulating rural communities, using sensors data, counters, surveys of users, businesses, communities etc.
- Develop and trial a range of practical initiatives and interventions such as business to consumer initiatives, digital marketing tools etc to enhance the return.
- Work with communities, businesses and other key stakeholders in the area to develop community plans and initiatives around the site.
- Develop a range of community trail ambassadors to champion the sites as catalysts for the development of rural economies.
- Our site for research purposes is Inch Levels and post project completion it is likely that key learning and methodology can be applied to other sites in the county and region through an extensive capitalisation programme.

### **SOCIAL MEDIA CHANNELS**

Website: [www.trailgazers.eu](http://www.trailgazers.eu)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/TrailgazersB](http://www.facebook.com/TrailgazersB)

Twitter: [twitter.com/hashtag/TrailGazers](https://twitter.com/hashtag/TrailGazers)

Instagram: [www.instagram.com/trailgazers](http://www.instagram.com/trailgazers)

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/trailgazers>

#TrailGazers

### **PROGRESS**



- **Trail Gazers Toolkit – The Legacy** launch will take place during National Enterprise Week on Wednesday 8th March in An Grianan Hotel, Burt at 11am with guest speakers Killian McLaughlin (Wild Ireland), Jason Black and Aengus Kennedy (Nature North West). The event will be followed by a site visit on Inch Wildfowl Reserve (bikes will be provided).

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work is continuing on Trail Gazers final project reporting and claim (project end date for administration purposes 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023).</li> <li>• Trail Gazers is delighted to have been successful with a Slaintecare Application (end of December) in order to carry out some of the recommendations raised following our accessibility audit. Works have now commenced.</li> </ul>
<b>Project Targets for the next quarterly* reporting period</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Launch Project Toolkit.</li> <li>• Final project claim and reports.</li> <li>• Final infrastructural works to be carried out under our Slaintecare application.</li> </ul>
<b>Contact Person</b>	<p>Mary McBride</p> <p><a href="mailto:marymcbride@donegalcoco.ie">marymcbride@donegalcoco.ie</a></p>

**1.4 Strategic Funding Unit**

**Project / Activity Report**

<b>Title</b>	<b>Strategic Funding Unit</b> – exploring EU and National Funding Opportunities that support the objectives set out in the <b>Donegal County Council Corporate Plan 2020 – 2024</b>
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<p><b>Countywide</b></p>	<p><b>SFU Webinars &amp; E-mail Newsletter:</b> The SFU will be organising a webinar in March highlighting the funding opportunities for the Local Authority and the March e-mail newsletter will reflect the same.</p> <p><b>The CPMR Political Bureau Meeting:</b> Donegal County Council’s Political Representative on the CPMR is due to attend the CPMR Political Bureau meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> March. Items on the agenda include ‘future actions on energy and climate’ and the ‘role of maritime ports at the crossroad of energy transition’.</p> <p><b>TOURBO Tourism Project:</b> The kick-off meeting for the TOURBO project is planned for April 2023. This project will boost the transition pathway of MSMEs (Micro Small &amp; Medium Size Enterprises) in tourism with green and digital transformation known as the ‘Twin Transition’. The project will include analysis of the tourism sector in terms of green and digital skills/capabilities, training for MSME’s, pilot actions such as new technology trials and knowledge/expertise exchanges.</p> <p><b>Peace Plus Workshops:</b> SEUPB are planning a number of workshops on the various themes within the Peace Plus programme in March. The SFU will be in attendance and will be providing an overview of the opportunities within the Peace Plus programme afterwards.</p> <p><b>YOUTHopia- Generating Perspectives for Cohesion:</b> The YOUTHopia project main youth focused event has been confirmed for the 27<sup>th</sup> April at Oakfield Park, Raphoe. This event will showcase the opportunities in the North West and Europe for young people including skills and education, employment and entrepreneurship. This project will also include a 4-day training workshop in June 2023 where young people can participate in a training programme in media and communication skills. More details including registration information will be available soon.</p> <p><b>Enterprise Week 2023 – YOUTHopia Webinar:</b> The SFU is hosting a webinar on 8<sup>th</sup> March at 12.30 as part of Local Enterprise Week to promote the YOUTHopia project. Representatives from the Alpha Innovation Centre, the YOUTHopia project lead organisation and the North West Tertiary Education Cluster will be presenting. Registration details can be found on <a href="http://www.donegal.ie/youthopia">www.donegal.ie/youthopia</a></p>
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	<p><b>FLAG Board:</b> The SFU continues represent the Council on the FLAG Board. The call for the Brexit Blue Economy Enterprise Scheme is open until August 2023 and projects must be delivered by the end of the year.</p> <p><b>Project Partnership &amp; Development:</b> The SFU is exploring a number of project opportunities under the Atlantic Area Programme and is liaising with Council staff and other potential partners on project concepts related to air quality, green infrastructure, fishing sector ecosystem innovation and tourism.</p> <p><b>Other areas of work include:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EU Funding Programme Reviews</li> <li>• Participation in project scoping meetings with potential partners</li> <li>• Participation in EU network meetings such as CPMR, AER etc.</li> <li>• Funding Needs Analysis of Council Divisions</li> <li>• Regular Strategic Funding Newsletters</li> </ul>
<b>Contact Person</b>	<p><b>Joy Harron</b>  <b>Acting Senior Staff Officer</b>  <b>Mobile:</b> +353 (87) 0619360  <b>E-mail:</b> <a href="mailto:joyharron@donegalcoco.ie">joyharron@donegalcoco.ie</a></p>

### 1.5 Donegal Diaspora Unit

#### Project / Activity Report

<b>Title</b>	<b>Donegal Diaspora Unit</b>
<b>Countywide</b>	<p><b>Relocation Campaign</b></p> <p>As part of the recently launched Relocation Campaign, two videos have been issued ‘Donegal is Calling’ and ‘Search Complete’, along with 7 relocater stories published on Donegal.ie. A social media campaign is underway targeting potential relocators all around the world to showcase what Donegal has to offer and to promote #MoveToDonegal.</p> <p><b>Tip O’Neill Irish Diaspora Awards 2023:</b> A consultation exercise with the O’Neill family has been completed for the Tip O’Neill Irish Diaspora</p>

	<p>Awards 2023. A provisional date of 16<sup>th</sup> September 2023 has been agreed upon with procurement to commence shortly. The first Tip O’Neill Committee meeting of 2023 is scheduled for Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> February.</p> <p><b>Donegal Connect 2023 / 2024:</b> Plans for 2023 have already commenced and dates will be agreed upon, in conjunction with the Tip O’Neill Irish Diaspora Awards, over the coming weeks. A funding application for the Global Irish Festival Series 2024 is also due for submission in Q1 2023.</p> <p><b>Donegal Diaspora Website / Social Media:</b> A communications plan on the use of the Diaspora website and associated Diaspora social media channels is currently taking place.</p> <p><i>Donegal Diaspora social media statistics as of 24/02/2023 are as follows:</i></p> <p>LinkedIn – 1,157 (up 19) connections</p> <p>Twitter – 4,017 (up 8) followers</p> <p>Facebook – 5,547 (up 12) followers</p> <p>Instagram – 276 (up 6) followers</p> <p><b>Scottish Diaspora:</b> A follow-up meeting with Packie Bonner and previous members of the Scottish Donegal Diaspora group will take place in late March to examine and promote Donegal Diaspora in Scotland and build on existing contacts.</p>
<b>Contact Person</b>	<p><b>Eoin Leonard</b>  <b>Diaspora Officer</b>  <b>Mobile:</b> +353 (87) 360 5678  <b>E-mail:</b> <a href="mailto:eleonard@donegalcoco.ie">eleonard@donegalcoco.ie</a></p>

**2. Division: Local Enterprise Office**

**Project / Activity Report**

<b>Activity / Project Title</b>	<b>The Local Enterprise Office (LEO)</b>
<b>Role and Remit</b>	<p>The Local Enterprise Offices is positioned nationally as the “<i>First Stop Shop</i>” for anyone seeking information and support on starting or growing a business in Ireland. The Local Enterprise Office Donegal provides advice, information and support to those starting up or growing their business in Donegal. Grant is potentially available for businesses that meet the eligibility criteria.</p> <p>Further information available here - <a href="http://localenterprise.ie/donegal">localenterprise.ie/donegal</a>  Contact number: 074-9160735</p>

<b>Outline of Work</b>	<p><b>General Overview – Highlights:</b></p> <p><b><u>Summary of February 2023 Outputs:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grant Aid – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 6 Businesses have been approved Grant Aid.</li> <li>○ Value of total Grant Aid Approvals YTD is €146,526.00</li> <li>○ Next EVAC meeting will take place on 27<sup>th</sup> April, 2023</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Trading Online Vouchers – 10 Businesses approved support to a value of €22,268.00</li> <li>• Mentoring YTD – 31 Businesses have received this support</li> <li>• Training – 151 Business Attendees YTD.</li> <li>• Student Enterprise Programme – The latest programme began in September for this academic year. 769 Donegal students are participating in 15 schools. The County final takes place on 8<sup>th</sup> March, where the winners will progress to the National Final in Dublin in May.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Upcoming Programmes:</u></b></p> <p><b>Scale-X Accelerator</b></p> <p>Scale-X Accelerator is an 11-week Accelerator Programme which is targeted at start up entrepreneurs with the potential for fast growth. The</p>
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programme focuses on giving you a deep understanding of the metrics that can drive success, the skills to build financial models that stand up to investor scrutiny, and industry engagement and mentorship that give valuable insights to adapt a company's business model to create the perfect fit.

**Who is eligible?**

- Any founder(s) with ambitions to grow their business globally.
- A potential spin-out from an existing firm or third level institution
- A commitment to grow their business from Donegal, no matter where in the world they live right now.
- The programme is open to residents of County Donegal

Further Info:

<https://www.localenterprise.ie/Donegal/Training-Events/SCALE-X/>

The programme is **FREE** and the closing date for applications is midday on the 27th March 2023.

**National Enterprise Awards**

Silver Strand Rope Works Ltd, based in Moville, has been chosen to represent Donegal at the National Enterprise Awards, to be held in the Mansion House in Dublin on 1<sup>st</sup> June, 2023.

The Local Enterprise Office is currently working closely with the company in helping it to prepare its application for the national competition which will be submitted by 24<sup>th</sup> March, 2023.

**Enterprise Week**

The 2023 Enterprise Week is taking place on 6<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> March and this year the theme is "Be Inspired" with events taking place throughout the county. Enterprise Week was officially launched on 17<sup>th</sup> February, 2023 at an event in the LEO Donegal offices.

In total 23 separate events will make up Local Enterprise Week 2023, with partners including WestBIC, ATU Donegal, Údarás NaGaeltachta, Ernact, Donegal County Council, Alpha Innovation, Donegal ETB, Donegal Women In Business Network, Inishowen Development Partnership,

Inishowen Innovation, Fáilte Ireland, WiSAR Lab and Enterprise Ireland all contributing to the comprehensive schedule taking place throughout the county.

The official launch of Enterprise Week Donegal takes place on Monday, 6<sup>th</sup> March in the Radisson Blu Hotel, Letterkenny with guest speaker Bobby Kerr, one of Ireland's best-known businessmen who will share his experience of the successes and challenges he has faced during his career as well as valuable take-home lessons for local enterprise. Other events include a Digital Marketing Expo, Building Firm Foundations, Stories of Donegal's Fashion & Textile Industry as well as inspirational leadership speakers who will present on a wide range of business topics throughout the week.

**Ongoing Programmes:**

**Digital Start**

***YTD – 9 Donegal LEO Clients receiving this support***

The objective of the pilot of Digital Start is to help businesses prepare and implement a plan for the adoption of digital tools and techniques across the business.

Digitalisation supports competitiveness, productivity, and value creation and covers five main areas:

1. Data processing and analysis (i.e. gathering customer trends, values insights)
2. Cloud computing (i.e. moving software/data to the cloud for accessibility)
3. Cybersecurity (i.e. protecting records, information, IP and data from attacks)
4. Internet of Things (software/technology connectivity)
5. Industry 4.0 (i.e. process automation in manufacturing facilities and utilisation of AI)

Digital Start provides strategic intervention for businesses to work for FREE with third party consultants worth up to €4,500 to:

- assist them identify where they are on their digital business journey,
- develop a digital adaptation plan based on their identified need,
- implement their digital adaptation plan.

#### **Green for Micro**

##### ***YTD – 0 Donegal LEO Clients receiving this support***

This is a FREE programme that helps small businesses take the first step towards becoming more sustainable, giving them access to a green consultant worth up to €2,500 who will show them small changes that can have a big impact on their company.

Developing a 'greener' policy can offer many benefits to businesses, including:

- Increased cost savings
- Improved resource efficiency (for example: using less energy, water, and materials)
- Reduced environmental footprint and greenhouse gas emissions
- Opportunities for higher and additional value on products and services
- Increased access to customers, improved corporate image and reputation.
- Increased resilience to climate change impacts.

#### **Lean For Micro**

##### ***YTD – 1 Donegal LEO Clients receiving this support***

LEAN provides strategic intervention for businesses to work with third party consultants worth up to €4,500 (Client contribution €200). It is designed to encourage clients to adopt Lean business principles in their organisations to increase performance and competitiveness. Lean is for all companies, regardless of sector – it is not just for manufacturing companies.

Lean tools and techniques address competitiveness issues within their businesses by building the capability of their people to identify problems, improve operations and create a more innovative organisation. In a nutshell, Lean is about doing things quicker, better and saving costs. Lean strives to remove waste and to continually improve a company.

**Ongoing Cluster Development Programmes:**

***Food Coast Donegal***

The Food Coast Donegal is an initiative facilitated by the LEO to support, celebrate and grow the Donegal Food Sector.

- 40 certified members.
- Just under 200 network members.

***Current activities:***

- The Food Coast Strategy Review is close to completion and should be finalised over the coming months.
- 10 Donegal food and drink producers travelled to St Joseph's University in Philadelphia in February for a week long programme in Food Marketing where they had the opportunity to attend executive lectures and field trips.
- Donegal lamb promotion project is underway with a social media release date in the coming months.
- ATU Higher Diploma in Food Business & Product Innovation Level 8 programme- LEO Donegal and Food Coast Donegal sponsoring



three food businesses from the county to partake. Expressions of interest are currently being appraised.

- Food starter programme commencing in March. Donegal leading out for the region.
- National Food Academy Steering Committee - Leo Donegal represents the NW region, this year is the 10th anniversary of the programme so please keep your eye out for Donegal producers on your local Super Valu shelves.
- Meet the producer event will be hosted in the coming months and planning is ongoing.

#### ***Creative Coast Donegal***

Creative Coast Donegal's aim is to support the building of a strong creative and digital economy in Donegal with businesses that are robust, confident, financially viable, and collaboration-friendly, all impacting positively on the local economy in terms of job creation, as well as being pro-active and competitive on an international stage.

There are currently 204 members of the Creative Coast Donegal network. These members are creative business owners throughout Donegal from various sectors within the Creative industry.

The LEO Donegal and external consultants are developing a 3-year action plan for the creative industry in Donegal and expect to have it finalised during Spring 2023.

#### ***Donegal Engineering Cluster***

The ambition of the ***Donegal Engineering Cluster*** is to expand, strengthen and enhance the existing engineering group in Donegal by:

- Facilitating inter-firm knowledge sharing and enhance learning.
- Increasing market knowledge within the cluster.

- Identifying new opportunities for the sector in the county through co-operation and collaboration among cluster partners.
- Enhancing the skills and innovation capabilities of the engineering firms through training, peer learning and management development.
- Enhancing the attractiveness of the sector as a potential source for future employment opportunities and business start-ups.
- Developing collaborative opportunities into meaningful outcomes and outputs for cluster members.
- Promoting the cluster as a centre of engineering excellence both nationally and internationally.

The Donegal Engineering Cluster Executive, Maura Toner, is continuing to engage with engineers and other stakeholders to assess the opportunities for the sector and their current challenges. A needs analysis will be circulated in the coming weeks.

**Upcoming Activities:**

- Business Advise clinics taking place on 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> March
- 4 week Start Your Own Business Programme – Online – 7th March
- Food Starter Programme – commencing 6<sup>th</sup> March
- Trading Online Voucher Workshop – 8<sup>th</sup> March

All bookings can be made here:

<https://www.localenterprise.ie/Donegal/Training-Events/Online-Bookings/>

**Donegal Stories:** Website highlighting the businesses of Donegal that have been supported by the LEO. <https://donegalstories.ie/>

**Emergency Humanitarian Scheme to Small Businesses affected by the Explosion in Creeslough.**

The Local Enterprise Office continues to support the Red Cross with the scheme to provide Emergency Humanitarian Support to Small Businesses affected by the Explosion in Creeslough. The Scheme closed for applications on 13 January 2023.

	<p>This scheme provides an ex-gratia emergency humanitarian support contribution towards business losses as a result of the explosion in Creeslough on 7<sup>th</sup> October and the subsequent road closure. The scheme targeted at small businesses (up to 20 employees) and will have two stages:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The first stage provided a single once-off contribution towards the damage or other losses of up to a maximum of €5,000.</li> <li>2. For the businesses which incurred significant losses above €5,000, the second stage will provide a means to seek further support. However, this will be a more lengthy process requiring a more detailed assessment. The total level of support available for both stages combined will generally not exceed €20,000. However, claims in excess of the overall cap will be considered exceptionally on a case-by-case basis, subject to availability of overall budget for the scheme.</li> </ol> <p>Up to January, 2023, 22 businesses have received €96,740 in support under the first stage of the Scheme. 6 (@ Jan 2023) Businesses have also sought support under the second stage of the Scheme and these applications are being evaluated.</p>
<b>Contact Person</b>	<p>Brenda Hegarty, Head of Enterprise</p> <p>Local Enterprise Office 074 9160735 <a href="mailto:Brenda.Hegarty@leo.donegalcoco.ie">Brenda.Hegarty@leo.donegalcoco.ie</a></p>

### **3. Division: Emergency Services – Fire Services**

#### **Project / Activity Report**

### **Fire Service Monthly MD Report (January)**

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Number of: (January)*</b>	<b>Total for year</b>
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<b><u>Fire Service Operations</u></b>			
Fire Brigade incidents within County Donegal**:			
		57	57
Mobilisations (by Donegal Fire Service Brigades)**:			
		63	63
Mobilisations into Donegal (by NI Fire & Rescue Service (NIFRS))**:			
		7	7
<b><u>Operational Activity Breakdown January 2023</u></b>			
		Turnouts	
		Incidents in County	
	Fires	Special Services	
	Fires	Special Services	
Donegal Fire Service	30	33	24
Northern Ireland Fire Service	3	4	2
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>31</b>
<b><u>Fire Prevention</u></b>			
Fire Safety Certificate applications received:			
		16	16
Fire Safety Certificates waiting to be assessed:			
		32	N/A
Fire Safety Certificate applications assessed by Fire Officer and waiting for Further Information from Applicant / Agent:			
		57	N/A
Fire Safety Certificate decisions made:			
		12	12
Applications for Dangerous Substance Licences received:			
		0	0
Dangerous Substance Licences issued:			
		0	0

Form of notice received under the Explosives Act, 1875:	1	1
Inspections and Auditing carried out (Fire Services Act 1981 & 2003, Annual Licensing, DSA 1972, Explosive Stores, Pyrotechnics, BCA 1992 & 2007):	15	15
Fire Safety Complaints received:	2	2
Fire Safety Complaints dealt with:	4	4
During Performance Inspections carried out:	0	0
Fire Safety awareness presentations delivered:	0	0

**\* Current data only available up to end of January 2023.**



**Comhairle Contae  
Dhún na nGall**  
Donegal County Council

## ENVIRONMENT REPORT – March '23

### WASTE AND LITTER MANAGEMENT

<b>Project Description/ Activity</b>	<p style="text-align: center;"></p> <p>Donegal Town has been selected as one of 6 pilot towns nationally and the only one in County Donegal to become a “Green Hub”. This is a pilot initiative delivered by MyWaste and Donegal County Council.</p> <p>The Council is collaborating with the Donegal ETB, the Donegal Local Enterprise Office with support from the Donegal Community Chamber and the Donegal Town Business Focus group.</p> <p>The pilot aims to help businesses to maximise the segregation of the business waste and have a positive engagement with staff by utilising the MyWaste Business resources available from <a href="https://www.mywaste.ie/business/">https://www.mywaste.ie/business/</a>. These resources are available to order free of charge and include information posters, information stickers for bins, video animations and testimonials.</p> <p>Over the 6 next months, Donegal County Council will work with local businesses and organisations to incorporate the use of these resources into their business. The Council is collaborating with the Donegal ETB and the Donegal LEO office both of which have a number of programmes and courses available for businesses.</p>
<b>Contact Person</b>	<b>Suzanne Bogan, Waste Awareness Officer</b> <a href="mailto:sbogan@donegalcoco.ie">sbogan@donegalcoco.ie</a>

**Activity /  
Project Title**

**WEEE Collection Days**


**Project  
Description/  
Activity**

WEEE Ireland will be holding 4 FREE WEEE collections days in Donegal during April. All electrical goods or battery-operated goods (anything with a plug or a battery) can be brought to the special collection days listed below. These dates will be widely advertised in the coming weeks.




**Contact  
Person**


**Suzanne Bogan, Waste Awareness Officer**  
[sbogan@donegalcoco.ie](mailto:sbogan@donegalcoco.ie)


<b>Activity / Project Title</b>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Paint Reuse at Carndonagh, Stranorlar, Dungloe and Letterkenny Recycling Centres</b></p>
<b>Project Description/ Activity</b>	<div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <p>After a successful Paint Reuse pilot initiative at Letterkenny Recycling Centre where over 400kgs of paint was redistributed to local communities for reuse in 2022, the Paint Reuse Initiative has been extended to Carndonagh, Stranorlar and Dungloe Recycling Centres. Paint suitable for reuse is set aside and made available once again. Local community groups and the general public are welcome to come along and take a look to see what is available.</p>
<b>Contact Person</b>	<p><b>Suzanne Bogan, Waste Awareness Officer</b>  <a href="mailto:sbogan@donegalcoco.ie">sbogan@donegalcoco.ie</a></p>



**CENTRAL LABORATORY**

<b>Activity / Project Title</b>	<b>Septic tanks - National Inspection Plan</b>
<b>Description/ Activity</b>	<p>The septic tank inspection programme for 2023 commenced in February. In total 107 inspections across the county are planned for this year. All homeowners are asked to check the condition of their systems and organise for basic maintenance &amp; desludging to be carried out.</p> <p>Septic tanks registered prior to the date as set down in the regulations (1<sup>st</sup> February 2013), are eligible for grant funding to repair faulty systems.</p>  <p>The next round of inspections will be carried out in March and April in the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Letterkenny MD – Glashagh Lower catchment in March</li> <li>• Inishowen MD –Portaleen and Owenboy catchments in March</li> <li>• Donegal MD – Bradoge (Bundoran) &amp; Fintragh catchments in April</li> </ul>
<b>Contact Person</b>	<p><b>Joe Ferry</b>  <a href="mailto:joe.ferry@donegalcoco.ie">joe.ferry@donegalcoco.ie</a></p>

<b>Activity / Project Title</b>	<b>Regulated Private Drinking Water Supplies</b>
<b>Description/ Activity</b>	<p>Donegal County Council is the supervisory authority for regulated private water supplies and must report results of compliance monitoring at the consumers’ tap to the EPA annually. The HSE sample these supplies on our behalf. They include 5 private Group Water Supplies (GWS), 1 Public GWSs with 37 no. wholly private water supplies supplying a public/commercial activity.</p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The overall compliance rate with the drinking water legislation for these supplies in 2022 was approximately 97% in 2022. A small number of supplies have already or in the process of installing additional treatment which should improve water quality results for the year ahead.</li> </ul> <p>The sampling programme for 2023 will commence in March/April. Any new private supplies with a commercial interest should be notified to Donegal County Council. The HSE must also be notified if it is a food premises.</p>
<b>Contact Person</b>	<p><b>Joe Ferry</b>  <a href="mailto:joe.ferry@donegalcoco.ie">joe.ferry@donegalcoco.ie</a></p>

<b>Activity / Project Title</b>	<b>Public Engagement activities – Central Laboratory Team</b>
<b>Description/ Activity</b>	<p>Donegal County Council’s Central Laboratory team have been placing a strong emphasis on engaging with the public this year on environmental matters, such as water quality, septic tanks, private wells and food waste among others.</p>  <p>Following on the success of the <i>New Build &amp; Rebuild Expo</i> in Letterkenny last year we will be attending this exhibition again this year on 10-12<sup>th</sup> March 2023 at the Mount Errigal Hotel.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Information on Operation of Septic Tanks</li> <li>• Septic tank Grant information</li> <li>• Sheep dips</li> <li>• How Well is your Well?</li> </ul>
<b>Contact Person</b>	<p><b>Joe Ferry</b>  <a href="mailto:joe.ferry@donegalcoco.ie">joe.ferry@donegalcoco.ie</a></p>

## RURAL WATER PROGRAMME

<b>Activity / Project Title</b>	<b>County Donegal Group Water Scheme Sector</b>
<b>Project Description/ Activity</b>	<p>Donegal has a considerably high number of Group water Schemes (GWS) within our rural water sector. The status of Donegal's GWSs is listed below;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 338 no. Public GWS's receiving their water from Uisce Éireann</li> <li>• 4 no. Private GWS's serving more than 50 consumers</li> <li>• 20 no. Private GWS's serving less than 50 consumers</li> </ul>
<b>Contact Person</b>	Pauric Feely, Executive Engineer <a href="mailto:pauric.feely@donegalcoco.ie">pauric.feely@donegalcoco.ie</a>

<b>Activity / Project Title</b>	<b>Group Water Scheme Takeover Requests</b>
<b>Project Description/ Activity</b>	<p>There are 82 GWS's which have submitted takeover requests to Donegal County Council and 17 have been taken in Charge by ÚÉ. This is one more GWS since the update in September 2022.</p> <p>The number of GWSs that have requested takeover amounts approximately 17% of the overall total of GWSs within the county. Although this figure appears low there are a large number of orphan GWSs where the promoter or trustees are no longer active.</p> <p>Donegal County Council is represented on a working group examining issues in relation to the taking in charge of orphan GWSs.</p> <p>Donegal County Council has commenced a pilot process which provides an alternative pathway for these orphan schemes to be taken over. The promoters or trustees of any group water scheme that wishes to be considered for takeover should do so by writing to the Rural Water Liaison Officer, Donegal County Council, County House, Lifford or by emailing <a href="mailto:ruralwater@donegalcoco.ie">ruralwater@donegalcoco.ie</a>.</p> <p><b><u>Criteria for GWSs to be Eligible for Takeover</u></b></p> <p>In order for GWSs to be eligible for takeover they must comply with technical, legal and financial requirements set down in circular letter WSP01 16. The takeover of a GWS is potentially a lengthy process in that all aspects of the GWS must be examined so as to ensure that they satisfy the standards set out by Uisce Éireann.</p>
<b>Contact Person</b>	Pauric Feely, Executive Engineer <a href="mailto:pauric.feely@donegalcoco.ie">pauric.feely@donegalcoco.ie</a>

<b>Activity / Project Title</b>	<b>Resourcing</b>
<b>Project Description/ Activity</b>	<p>Donegal County Council have been successful in securing additional funding from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage to employ additional staff within the Council's Rural Water Section in order to expedite the formal takeover process of GWSs.</p> <p>These staff, a Technician Grade 2 and an Executive Engineer, have been in post since 30<sup>th</sup> April 2018 and 19<sup>th</sup> November 2018 respectively following the completion of recruitment processes. An Assistant Engineer was added to the Rural Water team on 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2020 to assist with the Takeover Programme. A Senior Executive Engineer has been put in place since August 2020 to oversee the Rural Water Section.</p>
<b>Contact Person</b>	<p>Pauric Feely, Executive Engineer  <a href="mailto:pauric.feely@donegalcoco.ie">pauric.feely@donegalcoco.ie</a></p>

<b>Activity / Project Title</b>	<b>GWS Takeover Project – Works to date</b>
<b>Project Description/ Activity</b>	<p>Works completed by the GWS Takeover Team to date have included;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• an extensive desktop exercise reviewing and cataloguing GWS files for more than 300 GWS;</li> <li>• examining the works required on a large number of schemes that have requested takeover;</li> <li>• liaising with promoters and trustees on a number of schemes that have requested takeover.</li> <li>• Rural Water Team have engaged with 68% (54 of 79) of GWSs that have formally requested takeover and commenced the takeover process.</li> <li>• implementing a Civils framework for contractors to carry out upgrade works to GWSs.</li> <li>• conducting a review of pumping stations to identify upgrade works.</li> <li>• publishing a mechanical and electrical bundle for pumping station upgrades on eTenders.</li> </ul> <p>In order to expedite the takeover process it was necessary to prioritise the order of GWSs the Takeover Team will engage with first. A priority list was developed and it sets out four focus area as below.</p> <p><b>Priority 1</b> - GWSs with active committee members who are applying for annual subsidies and do not have any wayleaves or land transfer requirements</p> <p><b>Priority 2</b>- GWSs with active committee members who are not applying for annual subsidies and do not have any wayleaves or land transfer requirements</p> <p><b>Priority 3</b>- GWSs with active committee members who are applying for annual subsidies and have wayleaves or land transfer requirements</p> <p><b>Priority 4</b>- GWSs with active committee members who are not applying for annual subsidies and have wayleaves or land transfer requirements</p> <p>32 schemes have progressed to the point whereby they have been submitted to Uisce Éireann for Takeover review. The list below shows which schemes from have been submitted to Uisce Éireann for review;</p>

	<u>GWS Name</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Municipal District</u>	<u>Status</u>
1	Cappry Lane	Ballybofey	Lifford Stranorlar	Taken Over
2	Meenalought	Killygordan	Lifford Stranorlar	Taken Over
3	Lagnalore/ Meenahorna	Glenfin	Lifford Stranorlar	Submitted to IW
4	Cloughroe	Drumkeen	Lifford Stranorlar	Taken Over
5	Liskernan/ Meenavoy	Drumkeen	Lifford Stranorlar	Submitted to IW
6	Halftown Skelpy	Castlefin	Lifford Stranorlar	Taken Over
7	Corcashey	Convoy	Lifford Stranorlar	Submitted to IW
8	Tirhomin	Milford	Letterkenny	Submitted to IW
9	Labbadish/ Drumoghill	Drumoghill	Letterkenny	Submitted to IW
10	Moyle Magheradrumman	Milford	Letterkenny	Taken Over
11	Tullygay	New Mills	Letterkenny	Submitted to IW
12	Ballygallen/Breenagh	Glenswilly	Letterkenny	Submitted to IW
13	Leitir	Kilmacrennan	Letterkenny	Submitted to IW
14	The Bog	Cranford	Letterkenny	Submitted to IW
15	Brea Road	Bridgend	Inishowen	Taken Over
16	Glengad Mountain	Malin	Inishowen	Submitted to IW
17	Ballymacarthur No. 2	Greencastle	Inishowen	Submitted to IW
18	Ture	Muff	Inishowen	Taken Over
19	Lisfannon	Bunrana	Inishowen	Taken Over
20	Ballymacgroarty	Ballintra	Donegal	Taken Over
21	Rath/Lisminton	Ballintra	Donegal	Taken Over
22	Lurgan	Ballintra	Donegal	Taken Over
23	Teelin	Carrick	Donegal	Taken Over
24	Driminardagh	Donegal Town	Donegal	Taken Over
25	Owenteskna	Meenaneary	Donegal	Submitted to IW
26	Lisahully	Ballyshannon	Donegal	Taken Over
27	Tullywee	Laghey	Donegal	Submitted to IW
28	Ardcrone/Craugheybolye	Dungloe	Glenites	Submitted to IW
29	Meenlaragh No. 2	Gortahork	Glenties	Submitted to IW
30	Loughros Point	Ardara	Glenties	Taken Over
31	Lochnanoran	Annargy	Glenties	Taken Over
32	Sanfield	Ardara	Glenties	Taken Over
33	Lower Knocknastoller	Bunbeg	Glenties	Taken Over

In the coming months continued engagement with promoters and trustees of GWSs that have applied for takeover will continue, however, the impact of Covid 19 has limited the amount of contact GWSs could have with their members. This had a direct impact on the progress of takeover applications due to the limited the opportunity to obtain the required consent of two-thirds their members by means of a signature.

Members will be advised of progress in further updates given via the Municipal District Meetings. Project works are taking place by contractors on various GWSs across the county that have been procured through the rural water section on behalf of GWSs. These works involve works to the network and pumping stations comprising of Civil, Mechanical and Electrical in nature to ensure the minimum UÉ standards are met to achieve the takeover of the GWS.

**Contact Person**

Pauric Feely, Executive Engineer  
[pauric.feely@donegalcoco.ie](mailto:pauric.feely@donegalcoco.ie)

Activity / Project Title	Orphan Schemes																																																																																													
<b>Project Description/ Activity</b>	<p>An Orphan scheme is defined as any scheme where there is no active committee and where the emergency and maintenance works are carried out by Donegal County Council on behalf of Uisce Éireann. Donegal County Council is part of a pilot programme to commence the takeover of these types of scheme. Uisce Éireann has agreed to review 10 schemes from each county involved in this pilot programme. This list below sets out the parameters for which Uisce Éireann will consider takeover for these schemes;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• less than 10 connections</li> <li>• two-thirds of the GWS members have signed consent for IW takeover</li> <li>• no wayleaves on scheme</li> <li>• no land transfers on scheme</li> <li>• no pumping on scheme</li> <li>• no reservoirs</li> <li>• no debt</li> </ul> <p>The desk study of all 1,104 GWSs within the county was utilised to identify all orphan scheme within the county. 295 GWS were classified as orphan through this process and have decreased to 273 based on the takeover programme to date. These 295 schemes were investigated further to identify GWSs with less than 10 connections. 158 GWSs were identified after this review. A detailed analysis of each scheme is currently being conducted to establish if these schemes meet additional parameters set out by Uisce Éireann as mentioned above. All 158 schemes have been reviewed and 37 schemes have been deemed to meet the criteria set out by the programme. These 37 schemes will be checked on site to confirm if conditions match the desk study. The total number of Orphan schemes is now 273 due to the progress made on the takeover programme to date.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="300 1150 1523 1885"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th><u>GWS Name</u></th> <th><u>Location</u></th> <th><u>Municipal District</u></th> <th><u>Status</u></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>1</td><td>Ballinaboe</td><td>Clonmany</td><td>Inishowen</td><td>Taken Over</td></tr> <tr><td>2</td><td>Carnowen Road</td><td>Raphoe</td><td>Lifford Stranorlar</td><td>Taken Over</td></tr> <tr><td>3</td><td>Corraine No. 2</td><td>Ballybofey</td><td>Lifford Stranorlar</td><td>Taken Over</td></tr> <tr><td>4</td><td>Dooras</td><td>Ballindrait</td><td>Lifford Stranorlar</td><td>Taken Over</td></tr> <tr><td>5</td><td>The Roughan</td><td>Lifford</td><td>Lifford Stranorlar</td><td>Taken Over</td></tr> <tr><td>6</td><td>Sandymills</td><td>Castlefin</td><td>Lifford Stranorlar</td><td>Taken Over</td></tr> <tr><td>7</td><td>Creevy</td><td>Ballyshannon</td><td>Donegal</td><td>Taken Over</td></tr> <tr><td>8</td><td>Clontyseer</td><td>Ballyshannon</td><td>Donegal</td><td>Taken Over</td></tr> <tr><td>9</td><td>Springhill</td><td>Quigley's Point</td><td>Inishowen</td><td>Taken Over</td></tr> <tr><td>10</td><td>Fallask</td><td>Drumfreis</td><td>Inishowen</td><td>Taken Over</td></tr> <tr><td>11</td><td>Glebe Road</td><td>Burt</td><td>Inishowen</td><td>Taken Over</td></tr> <tr><td>12</td><td>Carronamaddy</td><td>Burt</td><td>Inishowen</td><td>Taken Over</td></tr> <tr><td>13</td><td>Clonkillymore</td><td>Termon</td><td>Letterkenny</td><td>Taken Over</td></tr> <tr><td>14</td><td>Pluck/ Aughlihard</td><td>Mannorcunningham</td><td>Letterkenny</td><td>Taken Over</td></tr> <tr><td>15</td><td>Gortnaskeagh</td><td>Kilmacrennan</td><td>Letterkenny</td><td>Taken Over</td></tr> <tr><td>16</td><td>Rathmullan Coastguard</td><td>Rathmullan</td><td>Letterkenny</td><td>Taken Over</td></tr> <tr><td>17</td><td>Grail Craugheyboyle</td><td>Dungloe</td><td>Glenties</td><td>Taken Over</td></tr> </tbody> </table>					<u>GWS Name</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Municipal District</u>	<u>Status</u>	1	Ballinaboe	Clonmany	Inishowen	Taken Over	2	Carnowen Road	Raphoe	Lifford Stranorlar	Taken Over	3	Corraine No. 2	Ballybofey	Lifford Stranorlar	Taken Over	4	Dooras	Ballindrait	Lifford Stranorlar	Taken Over	5	The Roughan	Lifford	Lifford Stranorlar	Taken Over	6	Sandymills	Castlefin	Lifford Stranorlar	Taken Over	7	Creevy	Ballyshannon	Donegal	Taken Over	8	Clontyseer	Ballyshannon	Donegal	Taken Over	9	Springhill	Quigley's Point	Inishowen	Taken Over	10	Fallask	Drumfreis	Inishowen	Taken Over	11	Glebe Road	Burt	Inishowen	Taken Over	12	Carronamaddy	Burt	Inishowen	Taken Over	13	Clonkillymore	Termon	Letterkenny	Taken Over	14	Pluck/ Aughlihard	Mannorcunningham	Letterkenny	Taken Over	15	Gortnaskeagh	Kilmacrennan	Letterkenny	Taken Over	16	Rathmullan Coastguard	Rathmullan	Letterkenny	Taken Over	17	Grail Craugheyboyle	Dungloe	Glenties	Taken Over
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Activity / Project Title	Multi Annual Rural Water Programme 2019-2021				
<b>Project Description/ Activity</b>	A number of GWSs received funding under the Multi Annual Rural Water Programme under various measures. A summary of progress is listed below:				
	<b>Measure</b>	<b>GWS</b>	<b>Funding</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Current Status</b>
	<b>Source Protection</b>	Dunlewey	€3,200	To install a barrier around the source	Work are complete
	<b>Public Health Compliance</b>	Tory Island	€262,861	To ensure compliance with Drinking Water Regulations	Treatment System trial ongoing and sampling process also ongoing. Site in coming months. Hydrogeologist completed desktop study and further investigations ongoing
		Townawilly	€38,500	To ensure compliance with Drinking Water Regulations	Sedimentation filter and UV systems replaced. Ongoing monitoring for THM compliance. GWS pursuing connection to public water supply
	<b>Enhancement of Existing Schemes</b>	Townawilly	€15,300	To improve Operation efficiency of GWS	Not proceeding as GWS are progressing the connection to the Public Network.
		Dunlewey	€68,000	To carry out pipeline replacement works	Consultant appointed and Feasibility report being finalised. GWS considering the report issued by the consultant.
	<b>New Group Water Schemes</b>	Dunlewey Extension	€661,900	Extend the GWS to serve Dunlewey	Consultant appointed and Feasibility report being finalised. GWS considering the report issued by the consultant.
	<b>Transition of Existing GWS to IW</b>	Multiple GWSs	€699,299	Funding to upgrade GWSs to IW Standards	Takeover programme as described above
		Maghera	€360,000	Funding to transfer GWS to IW	Hydrogeologist completed desktop study. DCC reviewing alternative options for water supply. Initial door to door survey

					along Maghera Road completed.
		Townawilly		Funding to transfer GWS to IW to ensure THM compliance	DCC have appointed a consultant to examine the work required to connect GWS to the public network. Draft Feasibility Study complete. Ongoing monitoring of THM compliance on GWS.
	<b>Community Connections</b>	Goland	€108,470	To provide funding to Connect to IW Network	Works on site almost complete. Awaiting close out of snags. Applicants are receiving water.
		Glenalla	€315,000	To provide funding to Connect to IW Network	Project not feasible based on current market rates. Letters issued to applicants informing them of same.
<b>Contact Person</b>	Pauric Feely, Executive Engineer <a href="mailto:pauric.feely@donegalcoco.ie">pauric.feely@donegalcoco.ie</a>				

<b>Activity / Project Title</b>	<b>Multi Annual Rural Water Programme 2022-2025</b>
<b>Project Description/ Activity</b>	The promoter or trustees of any group water scheme that wishes to be considered for an application under the Multi Annual Rural Water Programme 2023-2025 should do so by writing to the Rural Water Liaison Officer, Donegal County Council, County House, Lifford or by emailing <a href="mailto:ruralwater@donegalcoco.ie">ruralwater@donegalcoco.ie</a> .
<b>Contact Person</b>	Pauric Feely, Executive Engineer <a href="mailto:pauric.feely@donegalcoco.ie">pauric.feely@donegalcoco.ie</a>



<b>Activity / Project Title</b>	<b>Measure A8 – Wastewater Collection and Treatment Needs for Villages and Settlements without access to Public Waste Water Services</b>
<b>Project Description/ Activity</b>	In April 2022, the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage announced €50m in funding under measure A8 of the Multi-Annual Rural Water Programme 2022-2025 for waste water collection and treatment needs for villages and settlements without access to public wastewater services. Donegal County Council submitted an application for funding to the Department of Housing Local Government and Heritage for Bonagee in September under this measure. The Rural Water Section are awaiting confirmation if bid was successful.
<b>Contact Person</b>	Pauric Feely, Executive Engineer <a href="mailto:pauric.feely@donegalcoco.ie">pauric.feely@donegalcoco.ie</a>

<b>Activity / Project Title</b>	<b>Well Grants</b>
<b>Project Description/ Activity</b>	<p>Well grants are available for the installation or upgrade of a well the purpose of domestic supply. The property must;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• be the householders permanent place of residence</li> <li>• be at least seven years old</li> <li>• be located a reasonable distance from an existing water supply or GWS.</li> </ul> <p>Application forms are available on the DCC website <a href="http://www.donegalcoco.ie/services/water/ruralwaterprogramme/wells">www.donegalcoco.ie/services/water/ruralwaterprogramme/wells</a></p> <p>Over the last 5 years the annual average of well grand applications is 30.1. We received 29 applications in 2022 and have 8 to date in 2023.</p>
<b>Contact Person</b>	Pauric Feely, Executive Engineer <a href="mailto:pauric.feely@donegalcoco.ie">pauric.feely@donegalcoco.ie</a>

# GLENTIES FLOOD RELIEF SCHEME

Briefing Note 9 – February 2023

## Progress Summary

The Project Team is currently seeking to identify the Preferred Option for Glenties in conjunction with the Steering Group ahead of a proposed Public Information Day.

Hard defences, increased channel conveyance and natural flood / catchment management measures are the measures which are currently being assessed.

### Public Information Day

The Project Team will hold a Public Information Day once the option assessment is complete. The purpose of the Public Information Day will be to let the public know how the information they provided at the Opening Public Consultation (9<sup>th</sup> November 2021 – 21<sup>st</sup> December 2021) has been used in the assessment of options. This will be held in May 2023.

### Environmental Assessment

The RPS Environmental team have now completed specialist surveys, habitat mapping and protected species surveys. This data has informed the option assessment process. Further specialist surveys may be required subject to the selection of a Preferred Option.

Note that a new newsletter will be posted on the scheme website this quarter, see:

<https://countydonesgalfrs.ie/glentiesfrs/index.php/news/>

## Next Steps

**Hydrological and Hydraulic Analysis:** Hydrological analysis is complete and RPS are in the process of finalising the hydraulic report reporting.

**Scheme Analysis and Development:** RPS are working to identify the preferred option in conjunction with the Steering Group. RPS are developing Scheme Analysis and Development reporting including supplementary reporting on the application of nature-based catchment measures, buildability, operation and maintenance and climate change adaptation.

**Environmental Assessment:** Screening for Appropriate Assessment, Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Screening and, where necessary, the development of the Natura Impact Statement and Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EAIR) will be undertaken on confirmation of the preferred option.

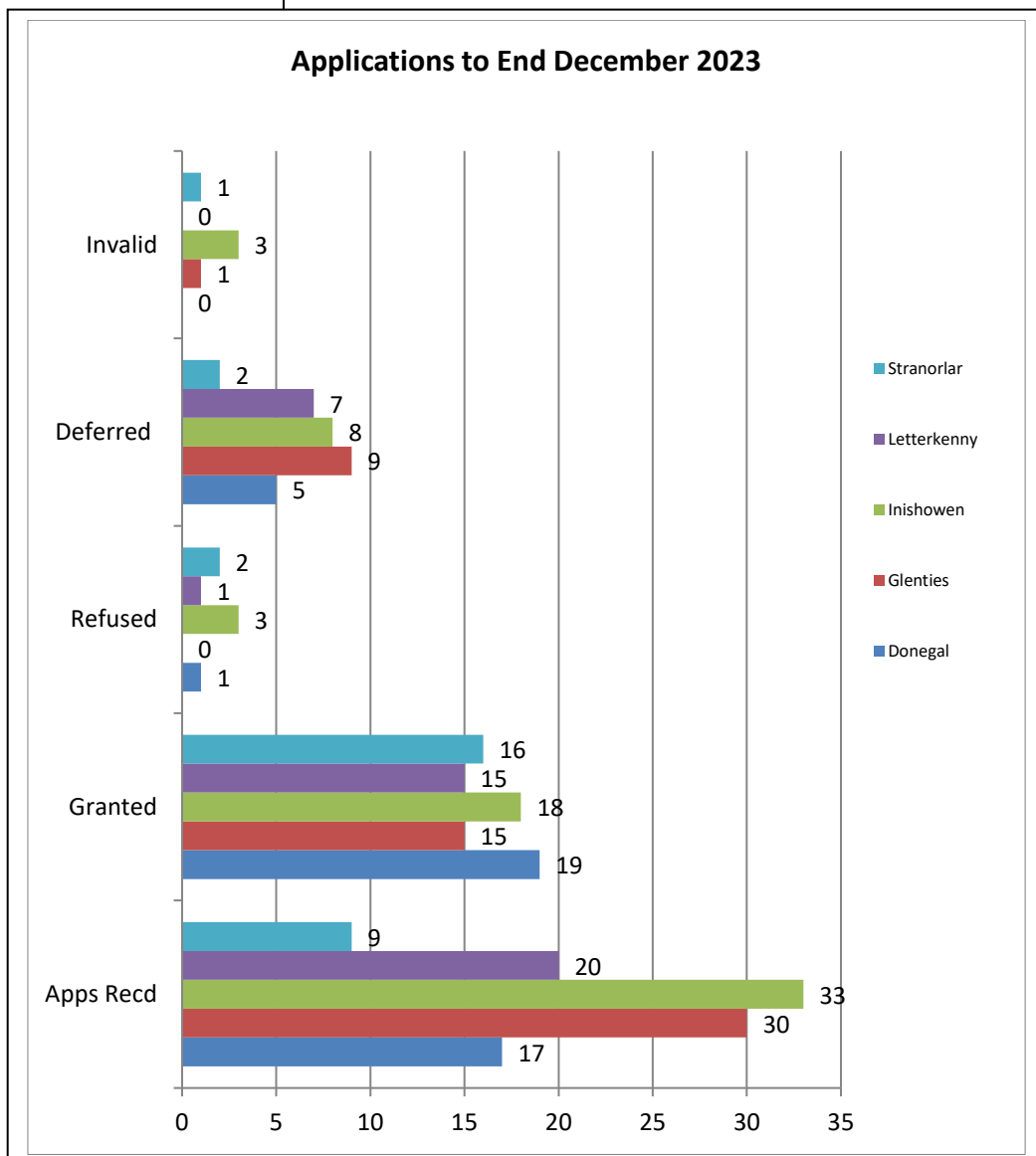
**Public Information Day:** A public information day is planned for May 2023.

## Projected Key Milestone Dates

- Public Information Day – May 2023
- Completion of Environmental Impact Assessment Report – December 2023
- Ongoing management of invasive species in line with the management plan

**Glenties MD Meeting**  
**14<sup>th</sup> March 2023**

Item	Update										
<b>1 Development Applications</b>											
(1) Statistics	<p><b>Glenties MD Totals Year to End January 2023</b></p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Applications received</td> <td>30</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Granted</td> <td>15</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Refused</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Deferred</td> <td>9</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Invalid</td> <td>1</td> </tr> </table>	Applications received	30	Granted	15	Refused	0	Deferred	9	Invalid	1
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<b>2 Enforcement</b>									
	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="552 248 967 286"><b>Glenties MD</b></th> <th data-bbox="967 248 1391 286"><b>To end of January 2023</b></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="552 286 967 324">New Cases</td> <td data-bbox="967 286 1391 324">5</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="552 324 967 362">Closed Cases</td> <td data-bbox="967 324 1391 362">0</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="552 362 967 443">Outstanding cases on record since 2012</td> <td data-bbox="967 362 1391 443">281</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	<b>Glenties MD</b>	<b>To end of January 2023</b>	New Cases	5	Closed Cases	0	Outstanding cases on record since 2012	281
<b>Glenties MD</b>	<b>To end of January 2023</b>								
New Cases	5								
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Outstanding cases on record since 2012	281								
<b>3 Notes &amp; Monthly Schedule</b>	<p><b>Pre planning clinics are on a telephone call only basis (ring 074 9153900) between 9.00am and 12.30pm on the dates outlined below.</b></p> <p><b>The pre planning clinic calls will be taken by the Executive Planners and shall be for substantial applications only.</b></p> <p><u>Planning Clinics 2023:</u> 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2023 6<sup>th</sup> April 2023 20<sup>th</sup> April 2023 4<sup>th</sup> May 2023</p> <p>Please see website for further dates. <a href="http://www.donegalcoco.ie/services/planning/planningclinics/">http://www.donegalcoco.ie/services/planning/planningclinics/</a></p>								
<b>4 Regeneration &amp; Development Report</b>	See Appendix A								
<b>5 Capital Projects Delivery Unit Report</b>	See Appendix B								
<b>6 Building Control &amp; Taking in Charge Report</b>	No Report								
<b>7 Central Planning Unit Report</b>	No Report								
<p><b>8 Further Information</b> <i>Click on web links to access information.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Weekly List of applications and decisions: <a href="http://www.donegalcoco.ie/services/planning/weeklyplanninglists/">http://www.donegalcoco.ie/services/planning/weeklyplanninglists/</a></li> <li>• Planning service email (to be used in correspondence with the planning service): <a href="mailto:planning@donegalcoco.ie">planning@donegalcoco.ie</a></li> <li>• Planning Webpage: <a href="http://www.donegalcoco.ie/services/planning/">www.donegalcoco.ie/services/planning/</a></li> <li>• Planning Application Online Query – planning reference number required: <a href="http://www.donegalcdb.ie/eplan/internetenquiry/rpt_querybyurforrecloc.asp">www.donegalcdb.ie/eplan/internetenquiry/rpt_querybyurforrecloc.asp</a></li> </ul> <p>File Retrieval Form – to be used for file retrieval and when requesting planning searches: <a href="http://www.donegalcoco.ie/media/donegalcountyc/planning/pdfs/fileretrieval/File%20Retrieval.pdf">www.donegalcoco.ie/media/donegalcountyc/planning/pdfs/fileretrieval/File%20Retrieval.pdf</a></p>								

## Appendix A



Rialtas na  
hÉireann  
Government  
of Ireland

Tionscadal Éireann  
Project Ireland  
**2040**

**Regeneration & Development Team**  
Community Development & Planning Services

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### Report to March (2023) Municipal District Meetings

#### 1.0 RURAL REGENERATION AND DEVELOPMENT FUND (RRDF)

##### 1.1 EXISTING APPROVED CATEGORY 2 RRDF PROJECTS (2020)

**1.1.1 Back to Ballyshannon** – A transformational project to re-energise, re-imagine and sustain the social, cultural, historical, physical and economic fabric of Ballyshannon’s historic town centre.

**Value: €247,500. (RRDF funding approved €185,625)**

**Update:** Acquisition of the key regeneration site in Market Yard was completed by year end 2022. The Team now continues to work towards the publication of a planning scheme, so as to develop this project as a shovel ready capital project targeted for future Category 1 RRDF funding.

Further to the public consultation period on the draft plans held in October-November 2022, the Team is continuing to engage with key stakeholders in relation to the feedback received. This includes the local Business Chamber, ESB and Bus Eireann. Good progress is being made in this regard and further arrangements will also be made for a further workshop with Members to update on this evolving consultation and design process.

**1.1.2 Ramelton Historic Town Centre** – A Restorative & Transformational Public Realm Scheme.

**Value: €249,159 (RRDF funding approved €186,869)**

**Update:** A Part 8 planning scheme for this project was published on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2022 and a Chief Executives Report on the proposed development was brought before the Elected Members at a Plenary Meeting of the Council on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> April, 2022 and it was decided to proceed with the development as proposed.

Detailed design and a tender package is now being completed by the successful consultant BDP.

The Regeneration and Development Team completed the submission of a Category 1 capital funding application to the Rural Regeneration and Development Fund for the capital delivery of this project by the 12noon deadline on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> April 2022. The submitted project had a total project value of €7,949,868.

On 10<sup>th</sup> November 2022 the Minister for Rural and Community Development, Heather Humphreys announced that €6.3m had been awarded under the Fourth Call for Category 1 Projects of the RRDF for the “Ramelton Re-Imagined” regeneration Project. This represents a full award of the RRDF funding sought. Work is now continuing to complete the Detailed Design and preparation of a Tender Package for this project, together with arrangements for handover to the Capital Project Delivery Unit for onward delivery.

#### 1.2.2 **THIRD CALL FOR CATEGORY 2 PROJECTS UNDER THE RURAL REGENERATION & DEVELOPMENT FUND (RRDF)**

On 6<sup>th</sup> January 2022 the Minister for Rural and Community Development, Heather Humphreys announced that €1.17m had been awarded under the Third Call for Category 2 Projects of the RRDF for the “Repowering Buncrana” regeneration Project.

Due diligence has been completed on this project and a formal letter of Offer together with an associated Funding Agreement was received on 10<sup>th</sup> May 2022. The Funding Agreement was subsequently accepted and formally returned to the Department on 18<sup>th</sup> May 2022. The project will now progress to procurement of the required consultancy services before commencement of the planning and statutory consents stages of this project enabled by the funding award.

The Elected Members of the Inishowen Municipal District were updated on the status of this project at workshop on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> January 2023. It is now intended to progress this project to tender in Q1 of 2023.

#### 1.3 **FOURTH CALL FOR CATEGORY 1 PROJECTS (SHOVEL READY) UNDER THE RURAL REGENERATION & DEVELOPMENT FUND (RRDF)**

On 17<sup>th</sup> December 2021 the Minister for Rural and Community Development, Heather Humphreys TD announced the fourth call for Category 1 applications to the €1 Billion Rural Regeneration and Development Fund (RRDF).

**The closing date for the receipt of proposals was 12 noon on Friday 29th April 2022.**

As described at Point 1.2.2. above the Ramelton Re-Imagined regeneration project, with a value of €7,949,868 was submitted under this call.

On 10<sup>th</sup> November 2022 the Minister for Rural and Community Development, Heather Humphreys announced that €6.3m had been awarded under the Fourth Call for Category 1 Projects of the RRDF for the “Ramelton Re-Imagined” regeneration Project. Work will now continue to complete the Detailed Design and preparation of a Tender Package for this project, together with arrangements for handover to the Capital Project Delivery Unit for implementation on site.

#### **1.4 REGENERATION STRATEGIES & PROJECT DEVELOPMENT WORK**

The Regeneration & Development Team had undertaken with Members to progress Regeneration Strategies in a number of Tier 2 Strategic Towns as a part of our work programme. This work has been progressing through in house resources and capacities together with consultancy services. An update on this area of the work programme is provided hereinunder:

##### **1.4.2 Ballybofey-Stranorlar Regeneration Strategy & Action Plan**

The Ballybofey-Stranorlar Regeneration Strategy was endorsed by the Committee of BASICC, as project partners, on 7<sup>th</sup> February 2022 and subsequently endorsed by the Stranorlar-Lifford MD on 25<sup>th</sup> May 2022. The Strategy was launched 27<sup>th</sup> May 2022 and is available at [Donegal County Council \(donegalcoco.ie\)](http://Donegal County Council (donegalcoco.ie))

##### **1.4.3 Ballyshannon Regeneration Strategy & Action Plan**

The Ballyshannon Town Centre Regeneration Strategy & Action Plan was formally published, launched and circulated to Members on the 20th April 2022. The Strategy & Action Plan, and associated Town Centre Masterplan, is available to view/download online at [www.donegalcoco.ie](http://www.donegalcoco.ie) and at Council offices. The Strategy was commissioned and funded by Donegal County Council and its delivery was led by GM Design Associates with the support and input of the Council’s Regeneration and Development Team.

##### **1.4.4 An Clochán Liath (Dungloe) Regeneration Strategy & Action Plan**

The An Clochán Liath (Dungloe) Regeneration Strategy & Action Plan was formally published, launched and circulated to Members in September 2022. The Strategy & Action Plan, and associated Town Centre Masterplan, is available to view/download online at [www.donegalcoco.ie](http://www.donegalcoco.ie) and at Council offices. The Strategy was commissioned and funded by Donegal County Council and its delivery was led by GM Design Associates with the support and input of the Council’s Regeneration and Development Team.

#### **1.4.5 Rathmullan RRDF Project Development work**

A formal Part 8 planning scheme for this project was published on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> November 2022. Submissions or observations were required to be made in writing on or before 4:30pm on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2023. A Chief Executives Report on the proposed development was brought before the Elected Members for consideration at a Special Meeting of the Council on 13<sup>th</sup> February 2023 when Members decided to proceed with the development as proposed.

Work will now continue to position the project for application to future calls of the Rural Regeneration & Development Fund (RRDF) for category 1 (capital) projects. The next stage in project development work concerns the preparation of a Business Case.

The project is a partnership with Rathmullan The Way Forward CLG.

#### **1.4.6 Milford Town Centre First Plan**

In late 2021 the Department of Rural and Community Development sought nominations for towns to be considered as part of the 1st Phase of the Town Centre Masterplan Initiative. Minister Heather Humphries TD subsequently announced that Milford was successful in securing €100,000 under the call. The Regeneration & Development Team is now leading on the delivery of a Town Centre First Masterplan for the Town.

GM Design Associates Ltd were appointed as the successful consultancy service to deliver the Town Centre First Plan for Milford on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> February 2023 and the project has now commenced with the first stage of Public Consultation. This opened on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2023 with the launch of the project website: [www.milfordtowncentrefirst.com](http://www.milfordtowncentrefirst.com), and will close on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2023 at 4pm. As a part of the first stage of the public consultation process Donegal County Council invited the public to come along to an open drop-in event on **Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2023 from 3.00pm to 8.00pm at the Milford Public Services Centre, Main Street, Milford.**

The Elected Members of the Letterkenny – Milford Municipal District were also fully updated in advance at a project workshop on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> February 2023.

The first stage consultation process will continue until Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2023, with further workshops planned with key local stakeholders, including the local schools. The public are invited to get involved during the first period of public consultation from **Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> February to Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2023** by:

- *Visiting the project website [www.milfordtowncentrefirst.com](http://www.milfordtowncentrefirst.com) to leave comments or complete a questionnaire;*
- *Visit the project Facebook page 'Milford Town Centre First Plan';*



- *E-mail: [milford@g-m-design.co.uk](mailto:milford@g-m-design.co.uk);*
- *Telephone : +44 (028) 7035 6138; or*
- *Write: GM Design Associates, 22 Lodge Road, Coleraine, Co. Londonderry, BT52 1NB.*

## **2.0 URBAN REGENERATION AND DEVELOPMENT FUND (URDF)**

### **2.1 Existing approved URDF project in Letterkenny (application submitted 2018; final approval to proceed received September 2019)**

This first application secured €1.9m in URDF monies, match funded by €600,000 for three sub-projects, the detail and progress of which is set out below.

Note: Please refer to Capital Project Delivery Unit MD reporting for update as regards the public realm sub-project.

#### **(i) Preparation of a Regeneration Strategy for Letterkenny Town Centre.**

The Letterkenny 2040 Regeneration Strategy was officially launched on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2022 in the Radisson Hotel, Letterkenny followed by a cross- directorate Letterkenny Public Information Event.

This concludes the project to prepare Letterkenny 2040 Regeneration Strategy which now transitions into project specific development and implementation. The project website and all published documents are available at [www.letterkenny2040.ie](http://www.letterkenny2040.ie)

#### **(ii) Acquisition of key town centre regeneration site.**

The Donegal County Council (Letterkenny Strategic Urban Regeneration Site) CPO 2021 became operative on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> November 2022. A Final Business Case was submitted on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2023 to DHLGH as regards the estimated likely all-in acquisition costs. Alongside the Final Business Case and following completion of legal review, steps are being taken to serve Notices to Treat. This will be followed by service of Notices to Enter without delay enabling Donegal County Council to take possession of the lands required to enable the delivery of Phase 1 (Alpha/Beta/public realm) of the Strategic Urban Regeneration Site which was approved Part 8 planning consent at the Special Council meeting on 24<sup>th</sup> February 2022.

In addition, in collaboration with Housing, options are being explored as regards the business case for an Affordable Housing Scheme in respect of the residential component of the Concept Masterplan relating to the remainder of the strategic site (Phase 2). Further updates will be brought to the Letterkenny-Milford MD in this regard as this work develops.

## 2.2 Successful application to the Urban Regeneration & Development Fund (May 2020)

The Councils successful application to URDF Call 2, entitled ‘Letterkenny 2040 (Phase 1): To Re-energize and Connect the Historic Town Centre’ secured a provisional allocation for total project cost of €18.1m (comprising €13.6m URDF support together with match funding committed by the Council in the sum of €4.5m). Total project uplift was secured at Decision Gate 1 in relation to Preliminary Business Case to take account of inflation resulting in total project cost of €19.3m (comprising €14.5m URDF support and €4.8m match funding by Donegal County Council). Project costs will remain under review at each stage of project development.

The project will advance five sub-projects to varying stages as follows:

- The further enhancement of the Cathedral Quarter
- The re-purposing of the Courthouse
- Strategic land assembly towards:
  - Renewal of Lower Main Street
  - Advancement of a Regional Transport Hub
  - Enhancement of ‘LK Green Connect,’ walking, cycling and parkland infrastructure.

In line with the Public Spending Code, a Detailed Project Brief and Procurement Strategy was submitted to DHLGH on 29<sup>th</sup> July 2022 for review and consideration. DHLGH approval to proceed was secured by letter dated 7<sup>th</sup> February 2023. A number of clarifications were sought on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> February 2023 and as a result, DHLGH advise that an updated letter of approval will issue in due course. In the interim, DHLGH advise to proceed as set out in the following table.

DHLGH also advise that each sub- project will now progress on its own timeline including the preparation of individual Final Business Cases prior to appointment of construction contractor.

### Next steps set out in letter of approval to proceed.

<b>Sub-project</b>	<b>Nature of DHLGH approval</b>
Sub-project A: Market Square element	Proceed to procurement of architect-led team for detailed design and site supervision
Sub-Project A: Cathedral Quarter Park and Church Lane Shared Surface Scheme	Proceed acquisition processes for land required  Proceed to procurement of architect-led team for all design stages (planning consent, detailed design & site supervision)
Sub-project C: Revival t the	Proceed to procurement of consultancy services

Courthouse	to prepare ‘Product identification/Visitor Experience Plan.’
Sub-project D: Strategic acquisition to enable a Regional Transport Hub	Proceed acquisition processes for land required.
Sub-Project E; Strategic acquisition to enable LK Green Connect	Proceed acquisition processes for land required

Steps will now be taken to progress as above and in conjunction with the Councils Capital Projects Delivery Unit as appropriate.

**2.3 ‘The Eat Out’ Outdoor Dining Infrastructure Project, Letterkenny**  
‘The Eat Out’ Outdoor Dining Infrastructure Project at the public space to the front of An Grianan Theatre secured Part 8 planning consent at the plenary Council meeting in November 2022. Detailed design of this project has now been enabled in the context of the further development of the concept contained in the Letterkenny 2040 Regeneration Strategy via the appointment of The Paul Hogarth Company and Cronin Sutton O’Connor Engineers. The Regeneration Team now provide support and input into the detailed design process which is led by Community Development with a target for delivery by end of Q2 2023.

**2.4 Letterkenny Cultural Corridor**  
Design development in respect of a future Part 8 proposed development for the ‘Cultural Corridor’ section of LK Green Connect is progressing and is at an advanced state of readiness for presentation to Letterkenny MD workshop scheduled for 29<sup>th</sup> March 2023. Part 8 is being prepared with the support of Pasparakis Friel Architects appointed to provide Part 8 drawings while the Regeneration and Development Team manage and lead all other elements of the Part 8 process including review of design, specific development of High Road design elements, AA and EIA screening. This project will also provide for a long-term public realm scheme at the front of An Grianan Theatre taking account of ‘The Eat Out’ and for enhancements to the existing pathway adjacent to the Boxing Club. The project also includes consultation with the Cultural Partners (An Grianan Theatre, the Regional Cultural Centre and Donegal County Museum) and other stakeholders including Letterkenny Tennis Club, the Boxing Club and a number of landowners.

**2.5 2<sup>nd</sup> Phase of LK Green Connect**  
Early design work using in-house resources commenced in January 2023 on Part 8 proposed development for Phase 2 of LK Green Connect to link walking and cycling infrastructure at Phase 1 (currently under construction) to Pearse Road. This would, in due course secure Phase 2 to shovel ready status. Given the early stage in the design process, the timeline for publication of the Part 8 is yet to be confirmed and is subject to capacity of staff resources across both URDF and RRDF programmes. The preferred scenario is to publish a

part 8 by Q3 2023. Workshops at MD level will be arranged as this project develops.

**2.6 Youth/Community focused project at Lower Main Street**

Early engagements with Letterkenny Youth Club and Donegal Youth Service have commenced to further explore the potential for a youth/community focused project at Lower Main Street as envisaged within the Design Concepts contained in the Letterkenny 2040 Regeneration Strategy. In this regard, a partnership in principle has been agreed. Following progress on relevant land acquisition under the Councils URDF Call 2 project, it is targeted to commence design processes as regards a future capital scheme at this location. Timeline for commencement of design work is likely to be Q3/4 of 2023 and is highly dependent on capacity of in-house resources. Updates will be provided to Members on ongoing basis.

**2.7 Collaboration with Housing Section of Donegal County Council**

Collaborative working arrangements have been established with the Housing Section of Donegal County Council to explore and develop social/affordable housing schemes on key regeneration site within the town centre generally and specifically at Lower Main Street and at Phase 2 of the Strategic Urban Regeneration Site located between Pearse Road and Ramelton Road. Members will be updated as this work progresses.

**2.8 URDF Call 3**

Minister O'Brien launch URDF Call 3 on 30<sup>th</sup> January 2023 alongside the launch of the Governments Vacant Homes Action Plan. URDF Call 3 focusses on enabling Local Authorities to tackle long-term vacancy and dereliction in Letterkenny town centre and on the acceleration of residential development. The programme will provide a rolling fund to Local Authorities to enable acquisition and design and civil works that may be required to de-risk property to make it more attractive for onward sale. A workshop with Letterkenny-Milford MD took place on 27<sup>th</sup> February 2023 to explore the Councils submission to same before the deadline for submission of 10<sup>th</sup> March 2023. A summary of the submission and update will be provided at the scheduled workshop of Letterkenny-Milford MD on 29<sup>th</sup> March 2023.

**2.9 Other**

The Regeneration and Development Team continue to engage in other regeneration related work areas and support other sections of Donegal County Council as required and across a number of other activities.

**Regeneration & Development Team  
March 2023**

## Appendix B



### **CAPITAL PROJECTS DELIVERY UNIT**

#### Community Development and Planning Services

Report to Glenties Municipal District Members: March 2023

Activity / Project Title	Burtonport Redevelopment Scheme – Phase 1																				
<p><b>Project Description/Activity</b></p>	<p>The Burtonport Redevelopment Scheme – Phase 1 will develop an improved public realm space at the existing harbour area of Burtonport, Co. Donegal.</p> <p>The scheme will provide new road construction and revised landscape layout to the existing harbour area. All associated footways, kerbing, drainage, utilities, road markings, landscaping and accommodation works are included in the works. The project involved considerable demolition works as part of the site clearance and the site size is approximately 2 Hectares.</p> <p>The Burtonport Harbour Development – Phase 1 scheme is part of the larger Burtonport-Arranmore ‘Harbour to Island’ Regeneration Project, which has a total project value of €4,118,932. This Project was submitted to the second call of the RRDF for category 1 shovel ready capital projects in August 2019 and was awarded funding support of €3,089,199 under the RRDF in November 2019.</p> <p>The Project Brief and Procurement Strategy for the delivery of the project were approved by the Department of Rural and Community Development (RRDF) on the 19<sup>th</sup> June 2020 and the project was approved to proceed to construction.</p> <p>The proposed Project compromise of the following key components.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="632 1686 1533 2027"> <thead> <tr> <th>No.</th> <th>Description</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>Site clearance</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2</td> <td>Demolition</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3</td> <td>Bulk excavations and filling</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4</td> <td>Reinforced concrete works</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5</td> <td>Drainage and Services</td> </tr> <tr> <td>6</td> <td>Pavement Works</td> </tr> <tr> <td>7</td> <td>Landscaping</td> </tr> <tr> <td>8</td> <td>Fencing</td> </tr> <tr> <td>9</td> <td>Installation of street lighting</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	No.	Description	1	Site clearance	2	Demolition	3	Bulk excavations and filling	4	Reinforced concrete works	5	Drainage and Services	6	Pavement Works	7	Landscaping	8	Fencing	9	Installation of street lighting
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9	Installation of street lighting																				



	10	Installation of street furniture
	11	Creation of car parking areas
<b>Budget</b>	€1.1m	
<b>Progress to date within the last quarter - inclusive of current status</b>	<p>Construction works are ongoing and are at an advanced stage, with street lighting being the only outstanding element required for substantial completion.</p> <p>The lighting poles are in place and awaiting delivery of the lighting units.</p> <p>It is anticipated that these will be in place and operational by the end of March 2023.</p>	
<b>Project Targets for the next Bi-monthly / quarterly reporting period</b>	<p>It is anticipated that the works will be substantially complete by the end of March 2023.</p>	
<b>Contact Person(s)</b>	Ardal McDermott, A/ Senior Executive Engineer	

<b>Activity / Project Title</b>	<b>Burtonport Redevelopment Scheme – Phase 2</b>
<p><b>Project Description/Activity</b></p>	<p>The Ailt an Chorráin (Burtonport) Harbour Redevelopment - Phase 2 Harbour Buildings Regeneration Project is a key component of the larger phased project known as the Ailt an Chorráin (Burtonport)/Oileán Árinn Mhór (Arranmore Island) 'Harbour to Island' Regeneration Project for the regeneration of Burtonport (Ailt an Chorráin) and Arranmore (Oileán Árinn Mhór).</p> <p>The 'Harbour to Island' Project was conceived on the basis that it would take place in two stages in order to accommodate the existing uses occupying the harbour space including the Harbour Master's office, ticket offices and the public toilets.</p> <p>Phase 1 of the Project was awarded funding under the Second Call for Category 1 Funding announced in November 2019. Phase 1 provides for the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• At Ailt an Chorráin (Burtonport):- Transformation of the harbour infrastructure and environment through the demolition and removal of under-utilised, redundant or vacant buildings, to a new multi-user public realm space with modern transport infrastructure, public amenities and services and parking;</li> <li>• At Óilean Árinn Mhór (Arranmore Island):- Landmark shorefront recreation, outdoor amenity and local community inspired amphitheatre style event space including children's playground and car parking.</li> </ul> <p>The works at Óilean Árinn Mhór (Arranmore Island) are now complete and works at Ailt an Chorráin commenced in January 2022 and are now in progress, with substantial completion anticipated for the end of September 2022.</p> <p>About the Project Phase 2 of the project proposes a new Ferry Terminal Building and Enterprise Building that present as an important physical element of the overall project and provide a valuable opportunity to introduce regenerative physical development, a diversification of uses and quality architecture to the marine and harbour environment. Broadly, the proposed development will provide for the construction of a Ferry Terminal Building which will house Donegal County Council office accommodation, a community meeting room, public facilities, ferry offices, waiting area and tourist desk facility and a separate Enterprise Building containing a number of small mixed-use units that will help create employment opportunities and stimulate entrepreneurship.</p>
<p><b>Budget</b></p>	<p>€2.3m</p>
<p><b>Progress to date within the last quarter - inclusive of current status</b></p>	<p>MH Associates Ltd. are the lead architect for the scheme and currently progressing detailed design and tender documents.</p>
<p><b>Project Targets for the next Bi-monthly /</b></p>	<p>It is anticipated that detailed design and tender documents will be</p>



<b>quarterly reporting period</b>	completed by the end of March 2023 with a contractor being appointed in Q2 2023 with construction completion by Q2 2024.
<b>Contact Person(s)</b>	Ardal McDermott, A/Senior Executive Engineer





## Municipal District of Glenties

14<sup>th</sup> March 2023

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### Community Development Division

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## **CLÁR / AGENDA**

1. 2023 DFI Minutes of Workshop Glenties MD 28<sup>th</sup> March 2023
2. Report on recent activity in the Community Development Division
  - 2.1 Community Development
  - 2.2 Social Inclusion
  - 2.3 Donegal Public Participation Network
  - 2.4 Healthy Ireland
  - 2.5 Rural Development Programme/LEADER

## Development Fund Initiative 2023

### Minutes of the Glenties Municipal District Development Fund Initiative Workshop held in Dungloe PSC on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2023 @12noon.

#### In Attendance:

Cllr. Anthony Molloy  
Cllr. Marie Therese Gallagher  
Cllr. Noreen McGarvey  
Cllr. Míchéal Choilm Mac Giolla Easbuig  
Cllr. John Sheamais Ó Fearraigh  
Cllr. Michael McClafferty

Ms. Anne Marie McCole, Community Development Section  
Ms. Mairead Lynch, Community Development Section  
Ms. Ann Marie Collum, Community Development Section

The Members considered the applications received for the 2023 Glenties Municipal District Development Fund Initiative and allocated funding as set out in the table below:

Applicant Group	Total By Group
Donegal Hospice	€ 2,500
SULT Féile Cuideachta faoi Theorainn Ráthaíochta	€ 5,000
Tirchonail Commemoration Cmt	€ 2,000
Amy McGarvey/Errigal Equestrian	€ 3,750
Ards Mens Shed	€ 2,500
Arranmore County Fest	€ 2,500
Awake Tourism	€ 2,500
BOM St Finian's NS	€ 2,500
Bord nan Óg	€ 3,500
Bród na Gaeltachta (Pobail Le Cheile)	€ 4,750
Burtonport Summer Festival	€ 2,500
Ceol Na gCruach	€ 2,500
CLG an Clochan Liath	€ 4,750
Club Óige Rann na Feirste	€ 3,500
Clubeo	€ 2,500
Coiste Forbartha Dhobhair Teo	€ 2,500
Coiste Forbartha Rann na Feirste	€ 5,250
Comharchumann Forbartha Ghaoth Dobhair	€ 2,500
Comharchumann Oileán Árainn Mhór CTR	€ 2,500
Creelough Community Association	€ 5,000
Creelough Community Enterprise Ltd	€ 2,500
Derryveagh Boxing Club	€ 6,000
Dolmen Leisure CLG	€ 7,000

Donegal Music Trails	€ 3,000
Donegal Playmatters CLG	€ 2,500
Glenties Tidy Towns Committee	€ 2,500
Ionad Cois Locha CLG	€ 5,500
Kincasslagh Rowing Club	€ 2,500
Lettermacaward Development Group	€ 3,000
Loughross Point Rowing Club	€ 3,000
Mary From Dungloe International Arts Festival	€ 6,500
Rosses Anglers	€ 3,000
Rosses Athletic Club	€ 2,500
Sciobal na Mban - Gweedore Upstylers.	€ 2,500
St Columbas Community Group	€ 3,000
<b>Total Allocated</b>	€ 120,000


## Glenties Municipal District - Community Development

Project Location	Project Details	Funded Under	Current status
Digital Hub, Arranmore	To bring an underwater cable to Arranmore	Town & Village Renewal Scheme	Cable delivered and Council advancing application for foreshore license in conjunction with Dept. of Rural & Community Development & local community group.
Glenties T & V project	Enhancement of Streetscape Design & installation of interpretative information signs supported by directional signage	Town & Village Renewal Scheme	Works nearing completion, all the outstanding procurement issues have been resolved and the street furniture will be installed in Q1 of 2023
Maghery	<p>Installation of galvanized equipment storage cage, outdoor shower, street furniture and surfacing works at Maghery pier.</p> <p>Installation of camping pods, self catering kitchen, toilet / shower facilities, lighting and a beach wheelchair at Ionad an Mhachaire.</p> <p>Development of a loop walk / cycle route</p> <p>Installation of tourism information points/panels</p> <p>Development of website, promotion and branding materials</p>	Town & Village Renewal Scheme	This work is complete.
Dungloe AF Project	To improve the walkability of Dungloe providing safer and greater accessibility for all ages and abilities	Town & Village Renewal Scheme	Materials purchased under age friendly funding have been received

## Glenties Municipal District - Community Development

Project Location	Project Details	Funded Under	Current status
Ardara	<p>Improvements to town:            Improve seating along the Main St. &amp; Front St.            Provide fully wheelchair accessible picnic and resting tables in the Diamond            Provide 2 bins along the Main St. and 1 no. bin along Front St.            Provide additional landscaping and planting in the Diamond and Town Garden            Provide 3 no. awnings at the Heritage Centre on Main St.            Provide 4 no. semi mature trees            The provision of a permanent tensile structure along the Riverside Walk in the centre of town providing shelter and the potential to host outdoor events. The preparation of a Health Check and a Masterplan to inform the sustainable development of Ardara and environs.</p>	<p>Town &amp; Village Renewal Scheme</p> <p>Town &amp; Village Renewal Scheme</p>	Work has been completed.
Railway Greenway at Muckish	<p>Section of trail to be brought to greenway standard (Phase 1)</p> <p>(Phase 2 and phase 3)</p>	ORIS	<p>Engagement with local community ongoing.</p> <p>Establishing scope of works.</p> <p>Contract documents gone to tender and due back by end of March</p>
Maghery	Slí na Rossa surfacing of section	ORIS	Work is complete
Errigal	Pathway and environmental improvements	ORIS	The path is now complete, and the carpark works and fencing are outstanding
Gairdin na gCeadfai, Falcarragh	Sensory Garden and picnic area	CLÁR 2022	Initial Meeting with the group has taken place.

Rosses Park, Dungloe	Community Riverside Walk	CLÁR 2022	Initial Meeting with the group has taken place.
Pearse Park, Ardara	All weather multi Use Games Area MUGA	CLÁR 2022	Initial Meeting with the group has taken place.
Aronmore	Aronmore Gym	CLÁR 2022	Initial Meeting with the group has taken place.
Pobal Eascarrach	Additional carparking	CLÁR 2022	Work being undertaken by Roads Section

Activity / Project Title	Social Inclusion Unit
<p><b>Progress to date within the last two months/quarter 3 -inclusive of current status</b></p>	<p><b>One Donegal - Social Inclusion Week 2023, 25 March – 1 April</b></p> <p>Launch of One Donegal – Social Inclusion Week with the Letterkenny Indian Community on 25 March @ 1.30pm in An Grianan Theatre. We are excited to invite you to the Launch of Social Inclusion week with Cathaoirleach Cllr Liam Blaney and a Festival of Colour. This Festival of Colour will be a family event for all where you will make unforgettable memories.</p>  <p>The week provides an opportunity to highlight the various activities undertaken locally to involve and include everyone in our County. The programme of events provides an occasion to increase our awareness and understanding of inclusion and diversity in Donegal.</p> <p>The full programme of events for this week will be published during March.</p> <p>One Donegal - Social Inclusion Week 2023 will close on 1 April with a Diversity Showcase in An Grianan Theatre @ 3pm. You are invited to come along to Diversity Showcase event where there will be a sharing talent and culture. This is a chance to see about the beautiful cultures in our area.</p> <p><b>Donegal JPC</b> Cybercrime Awareness will be raised during One Donegal Social Inclusion Week. The purpose is to highlight the steps people need to take to stay safe and secure online and to provide information and resources to guide people on how Cyber Awareness and to remind everyone of the role we all play in online safety and security.</p> <p><b>Africa Day 2023</b> Donegal County Council has submitted a funding application to Irish Aid at the Department of Foreign Affairs which upon being successful Donegal will celebrate Africa Day 2023 on 27 May in Letterkenny. Africa Day represents an opportunity to acknowledge a diffuse, diverse, and important group of people from 50 African countries, who enrich and make a valuable contribution to Irish society.</p> <p><b>Black and Minority Ethnic Inclusion Strategy</b> The implementation group reviewed the Workplan at February meeting they will now meet on the individual Themes in April to explore where the gaps are in what is being done and what can be done.</p>

	<p><b>EU Belong</b>  EU-BELONG Project enters its second year of a 3 year project. Donegal County Council is one of 11 partners in the EU-BELONG project co-funded by the European Commission through its Asylum, Migration, and Integration Fund (AMIF) Programme.</p> <p>At the recent meeting of the Black and Minority Ethnic Inclusion Strategy a discussion was had of possible 3 pilot projects that can be developed from the Black and Minority Ethnic Strategy actions and which could be delivered under the EU Belong project.</p>	
<b>Contact Person</b>	Christina O'Donnell <a href="mailto:codonnell@donegalcoco.ie">codonnell@donegalcoco.ie</a> 0879192272	Charles Sweeney <a href="mailto:charlesseeney@donegalcoco.ie">charlesseeney@donegalcoco.ie</a>



<b>Activity / Project Title</b>	Donegal Public Participation Network (Donegal PPN)
<b>Project Description/Activity</b>	Link through which organisations from the Community & Voluntary sector have a voice on Council decision making bodies and other structures.
<b>Budget (if applicable)</b>	€115,000.00 per annum
<b>Progress to date within the last two months inclusive of current status</b>	<p>PPN membership now stands at 670 registered organisations. Donegal MD 121, Glenties MD 151, Inishowen MD 116, Letterkenny MD 182, Stranorlar MD 78. The PPN have 72 Representatives on 24 different Committees and Boards.</p> <p><b>Our Community Training Programme for Quarter 2 include:</b>  Governance Roles &amp; Responsibilities Workshops  Glenties MD- 7<sup>th</sup> March- 6pm- An Chrannóg, Stranacorkra  Donegal MD- 14<sup>th</sup> March- 6pm-Donegal PSC  Social Media Training- Dates TBD  Intercultural Awareness &amp; Anti Racism Training TBD  Social Inclusion Week 25<sup>th</sup> March – 1<sup>st</sup> April- Programme of Events being finalised.  Walkability Audits – Milford- 9<sup>th</sup> March - Ramelton 28<sup>th</sup> March, 2023  Donegal PPN Strategic Plan Workshops - April 2023</p>
<b>Project Targets for the next bi-monthly/quarterly* reporting period</b>	<p>Secretariat Meeting 9<sup>th</sup> March, 2023, April 20<sup>th</sup> 2023  PPN AGM/Plenary 4<sup>th</sup> May, 2022  PPN Regional Meeting 25<sup>th</sup> April, 2023  Linkage Group Meetings TBD</p>
<b>Contact Person</b> (to include telephone number & e-mail address)	<p>Mary Clyde / Annette McGrenra  074 9153900  <a href="mailto:donegalppn@donegalcoco.ie">donegalppn@donegalcoco.ie</a></p>

<b>Programme</b>	Healthy Ireland Fund
<b>Project Description/Activity</b>	<p><b>Healthy Ireland</b></p> <p>The objective of the Healthy Ireland Fund 2023 – 2025 is to improve the health and wellbeing of people of all ages and abilities living in Ireland through the implementation of the Healthy Ireland Strategic Action Plan 2021-2025. Within the Plan there are a number of Priority Focus Areas. These are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Keeping Active</li> <li>• Staying Connected</li> <li>• Switching Off and Being Creative</li> <li>• Eating Well</li> <li>• Minding your Mood</li> <li>• Minding your Body</li> </ul>
<b>Budget</b>	€195,000 Round 4 Funding
<p><b>Progress to date within the last quarter -inclusive of current status</b></p> <p><i>* Delete irrelevant reporting period</i></p>	<p><b>Healthy Ireland Round 4</b></p> <p>The Healthy Ireland Round 4 Programme (HIF 2023-2025) represents a more evidenced-based outcomes led approach, with a longer 3-year timeframe. The grant period for Round 4 will run from 1 June 2022 to 31 December 2025, with the outcomes led approach to be delivered from 2023-2025.</p> <p><b><u>Healthy Ireland Round 4 June-Dec 2022</u></b></p> <p><b>Healthy Donegal Small Grants Scheme 2022</b></p> <p>In September 2022, Donegal LCDC approved the provision of a Healthy Donegal Small Grants Scheme.</p> <p>The Healthy Donegal Small Grant Scheme was a small but flexible source of funding to assist Local Community Groups, Voluntary Groups and Sporting Organisations in the development of locally based community projects and group activities aimed at improving social inclusion, health and wellbeing. The Scheme offered small grants for projects with a minimum spend of €500 and up to a maximum of €1,000. A small selection of some of the funded activities are included below -</p>

## The Menopause

When we talk and laugh about it,  
we learn and relax.

It's a life transition not a disease

We will be joined by Anne Flanagan and Bernie O'Neill from Innovation Recovery who will be giving a talk on the effects of the Menopause and the myths associated with it, followed by a question and answer session

**Thursday 17th November,  
7pm-10pm in The Bluestack Centre,  
Drimarone**  
Refreshments will be served on the  
night



On a lighter note we also have Sligo Comedian Niamh Mc Grath performing her latest Hilarious comedy "Gombean" directed by Seamus O'Rourke

Admission: €5.00



Left and below  
**Drimarone  
Development CLG**  
hosted a comedy and  
information night about  
the menopause



Pictured above **Barrack Hill Town Park Committee** held a fun event showcasing creative arts and educational projects, in collaboration with all the local schools, people with disabilities, older people and our new community of asylum seekers and refugees



Above left - **An Machaire le Cheile** hosted an arts and wellbeing workshop for older people  
 Above right - **Donegal Gay Walking Club** had t-shirts printed for their upcoming walking events

**Creative Play**  
 5-12 year olds  
 6 week block - Tuesday or Thursday 4-5pm



bookings@spraoiagusport.ie  
 or call 074 93 73303



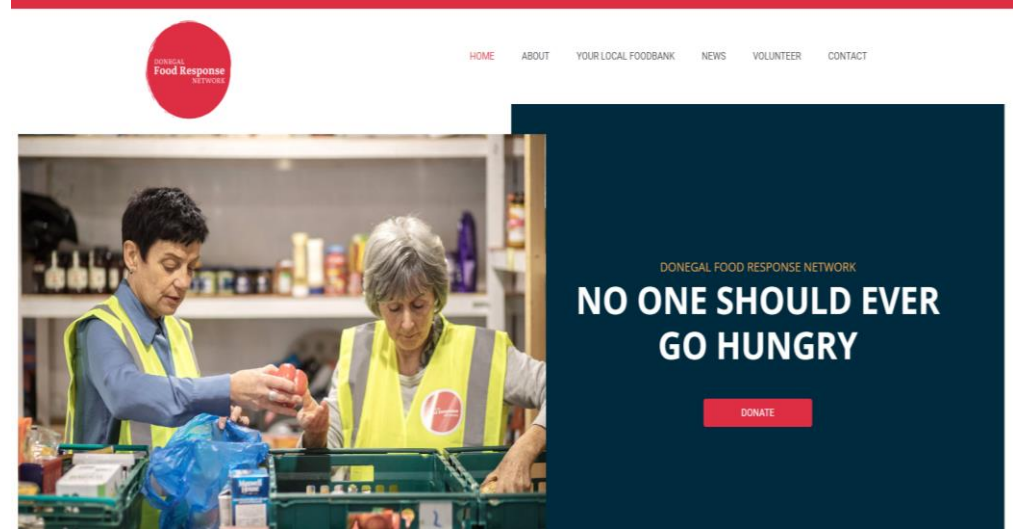
Pictured left **Spraoi agus Sport** ran a creative play programme for children



**Donegal Food Response Network**

The affordability and accessibility of food within local communities has increased significantly over the last number of years. Healthy Donegal through Healthy Ireland Round 4 funding in 2022 and in conjunction with the

Slaintecare Healthy Communities Programme supported the development of a designated website for the Donegal Food Response Network and the sourcing of marketing expertise to drive fundraising campaigns across Donegal.



#### **Healthy Ireland Round 4 2023 -2025**

The Healthy Ireland Fund Round 4 online application, Local Strategy, annual activities workplan for 2023-2025 and supporting documentation are currently under review following submission to Pobal (funding body) on 27<sup>th</sup> January 2023.

You can follow Healthy Donegal on the following platforms:

<http://www.donegalcoco.ie/community/healthydonegal>

<https://www.facebook.com/HealthyDonegal>

[https://www.instagram.com/healthy\\_donegal/](https://www.instagram.com/healthy_donegal/)

<https://twitter.com/HealthyDonegal>

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCwcqNcNTWBCaRjEFGqSkOnA>

#### **Contact Person**

Margaret Fitzgerald, Healthy Donegal Coordinator  
074 9172562  
mfitzgerald@donegalcoco.ie

<b>Activity / Project Title</b>	Rural Development Programme/LEADER
<b>Project Description/Activity</b>	Donegal Local Community and Development Committee are the Local Action Group for County Donegal, with responsibility for the LEADER/Rural Development Programme 2014-2020 & Transitional LEADER Programme 2021-2022
<b>Budget (if applicable)</b>	<p>€13,413,875 (Additional funding received 2019)  <i>Note: Project costs €10,063,586, administration and animation costs €3,350,289</i>  1<sup>st</sup> April 2021 – 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022  €2,861,598 project costs  €953,866 for Administration &amp; Animation.</p>
<b>Progress to date within the last quarter -inclusive of current status</b>	<p>There are 4 Implementing Partners within the county; Donegal Local Development Company (DLDC), Inishowen Development Partnership (IDP), Údarás Na Gaeltachta and Comhar na nOileán, who are rolling out the LEADER Transitional programme on behalf of the LAG (Local Action Group). The LEADER Transitional programme is effective from 1st April 2021 and runs until 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022. €45 million is allocated nationally for the Transitional Programme and €20 million from the EURI programme.</p> <p>62 projects in Donegal are now approved by Pobal under the Transitional &amp; EURI programmes and Letters of Offer have issued/are pending, granting LEADER funding to a value of €2,861,598.</p>
<b>Project Targets for the next Bi-monthly / quarterly reporting period</b>	<p>The next LCDC/LAG meeting will be held on 15th March 2023. LDCs will continue to engage with promoters on the ground however no new projects will be developed as all funding awarded to the Donegal LAG under the Transitional LEADER programme and EURI programme has been allocated.</p> <p>Donegal LCDC has submitted an expression of interest to DRCD to be the LAG for the new LEADER Programme 2023-2027 working in partnership with Donegal County Council as Lead Financial Partner, and with our four implementing partners, Donegal Local Development Company, Inishowen Development Partnership, Údarás na Gaeltachta and Comhar na nOileán.</p> <p>On 26th January 2023, the Department confirmed Donegal's Expression of Interest as being eligible to</p>

	proceed to the next stage which will see us develop our LEADER strategy which must be submitted no later than 14th July 2023.
<b>Contact Person</b> <i>(to include telephone number &amp; e-mail address)</i>	Ciaran Martin <a href="mailto:cmartin@donegalcoco.ie">cmartin@donegalcoco.ie</a>

**GLENTIES MUNICIPAL DISTRICT  
MEETING  
14<sup>th</sup> March 2023**

**Roads & Transportation Agenda**

- 1. Follow up to Issues raised at last MD Meeting.  
Report has / will issue in advance of the MD Meeting to the Member that raised the query. If more than One Member raised the same query then the response is issued to All Members.**
  
- 2. Fintown Project – Update from Road Design.**
  
- 3. Adopt Programmes evolving from Workshop 2 dated 28<sup>th</sup> February including:-**
  - Bridge Programmes 2023**



# **Housing & Corporate Agenda**

**For Meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> March 2023**

- Progress Report - Grants
- Progress Report - Casual Vacancies
- Housing Need
- HAP
- RAS
- LTL Properties
- Tenancies and Offers
- Tenant Purchase
- Local Authority Loans

**1. PROGRESS REPORT - GRANTS AT 02/03/2023**

<b>Housing Aid for Older People Grants</b>						
<i>Year</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Approved</i>	<i>Cancelled/ Refused</i>	<i>Applicant Further Info</i>	<i>Referred to Eng</i>	<i>Pending</i>
2022	140	116	18	1	5	6
2023	8	0	0	0	8	8

<b>Housing Adaptation Grants</b>							
<i>Year</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Approved</i>	<i>Cancelled/ Refused</i>	<i>Applicant Further Info</i>	<i>Referred to Eng</i>	<i>Referred to OT</i>	<i>Pending</i>
2022	89	51	17	2	8	11	21
2023	10	0	0	0	5	5	10

<b>Mobility Aids Grants</b>							
<i>Year</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Approved</i>	<i>Cancelled/ Refused</i>	<i>Applicant Further Info</i>	<i>Referred to Eng</i>	<i>Referred to OT</i>	<i>Pending</i>
2022	25	12	13	0	0	0	0
2023	1	0	0	0	1	0	1

## 2. PROGRESS REPORT – CASUAL VACANCIES @ 02/03/2023

Glenties MD	Address	Beds	Vacant From	Current Status
Ardara				
	Drumaghey Park	1 bed	31/01/2023	Currently seeking quotations from contractors for the works required
Arranmore				
	Leabgarrow	2 bed	15/12/2022	Contractor on site
Burtonport				
	Altan	3 bed	26/10/2022	Contractor on site
Doochary				
	Droim a’Droichead	2 bed	09/09/2022	Currently being assessed
Dunfanaghy				
	Cnoc na Gaoithe, Crocknageeha	4 bed	13/01/2023	Currently seeking quotations from contractors for the works required
Dungloe				
	Fairhill	3 bed	09/02/2023	Currently seeking quotations from contractors for the works required
Glenties				
	Ard McGill	1 bed	03/11/2022	Currently being assessed
	Clos Naomh Chonaill	3 bed	07/11/2022	Complete – to be offered
	Clos Naomh Chonaill	2 bed	05/12/2022	Complete – to be offered
	Clos Naomh Chonaill	2 bed	03/02/2023	Currently seeking quotations from contractors for the works required
Lettermacaward				
	Ascaill Bhride	2 bed	24/11/2022	Complete – to be offered
Loughanure				
	Radharc an Iuir	2 bed flat	06/07/2022	Contractor on site

### 3. HOUSING NEED

#### Gross Need - by approved bedrooms

Municipal District		0	1	2	3	4	5	Total
Glenties	Annagry	0	0	14	3	2	0	19
	Ardara	0	3	13	2	1	0	19
	Arranmore	0	0	2	0	0	0	2
	Bunbeg	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
	Burtonport	0	0	5	0	2	0	7
	Creeslough	0	0	13	1	3	0	17
	Crollly	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
	Derrybeg	0	0	3	0	0	0	3
	Doochary	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
	Dunfanaghy	0	3	10	1	0	0	14
	Dungloe	7	9	31	5	2	0	54
	Falcarragh	0	1	30	2	0	0	33
	Fintown	0	1	0	0	1	0	2
	Glenties	0	1	8	2	1	0	12
	Gortahork	0	1	6	0	0	1	8
	GWEEDORE	0	2	16	5	0	0	23
	Kincasslagh	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
	Lettermacaward	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
	Loughanure	0	0	3	1	0	0	4
Magheroarty	0	0	2	0	0	0	2	
<b>Total</b>		<b>7</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>159</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>224</b>

### 4. HOUSING ASSISTANCE PAYMENT (HAP) SCHEME

As at 03<sup>rd</sup> March 2023, the Glenties Municipal District is providing Social Housing Support in the form of the Housing Assistance Payment to 86 families/individuals. 9 of these families/individuals are in receipt of HAP only.

### 5. NUMBER OF RAS PROPERTIES

As of the 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2023, the Glenties Municipal District is providing Social Housing Support in the form of the Rental Accommodation Scheme to 57 families/individuals.

## 6. NUMBER OF LTL PROPERTIES

As of the 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2023, the Glenties Municipal District is providing Social Housing Support in the form of the Long Term Lease Properties to 19 families/individuals.

## 7. HOUSING VACANCIES AND OFFERS

Reasons for Vacancies between 1 <sup>st</sup> Jan 2023 to 28 <sup>th</sup> Feb 2023				
Transfers	Surrenders	Death of Tenant	Other	Total
0	3	2	0	5

Number of Housing Offers issued between 1 <sup>st</sup> Jan 2023 to 28 <sup>th</sup> Feb 2023		
Number of Offers issued	Offers Accepted	Offers Refused
5	4	1

## 8. TENANT PURCHASE

Number of applications received since Scheme commenced:	114
Total number of valid applications:	87
Valid applications received in 2023:	4
Total number of houses sold under the Scheme to date:	19

## 9. LOCAL AUTHORITY LOANS

Total number of Loan applications (RIHL) received from 2018-2023	Number of Loans Approved from 2018-2023	Total number of new Loan applications (LAHL) in 2022	Number of Loans Approved in 2022
43	5	9	2



**Housing Capital Update Report  
Glenties Municipal District Meeting  
March 2023**

**1. Social Housing Developments – Construction Schemes**

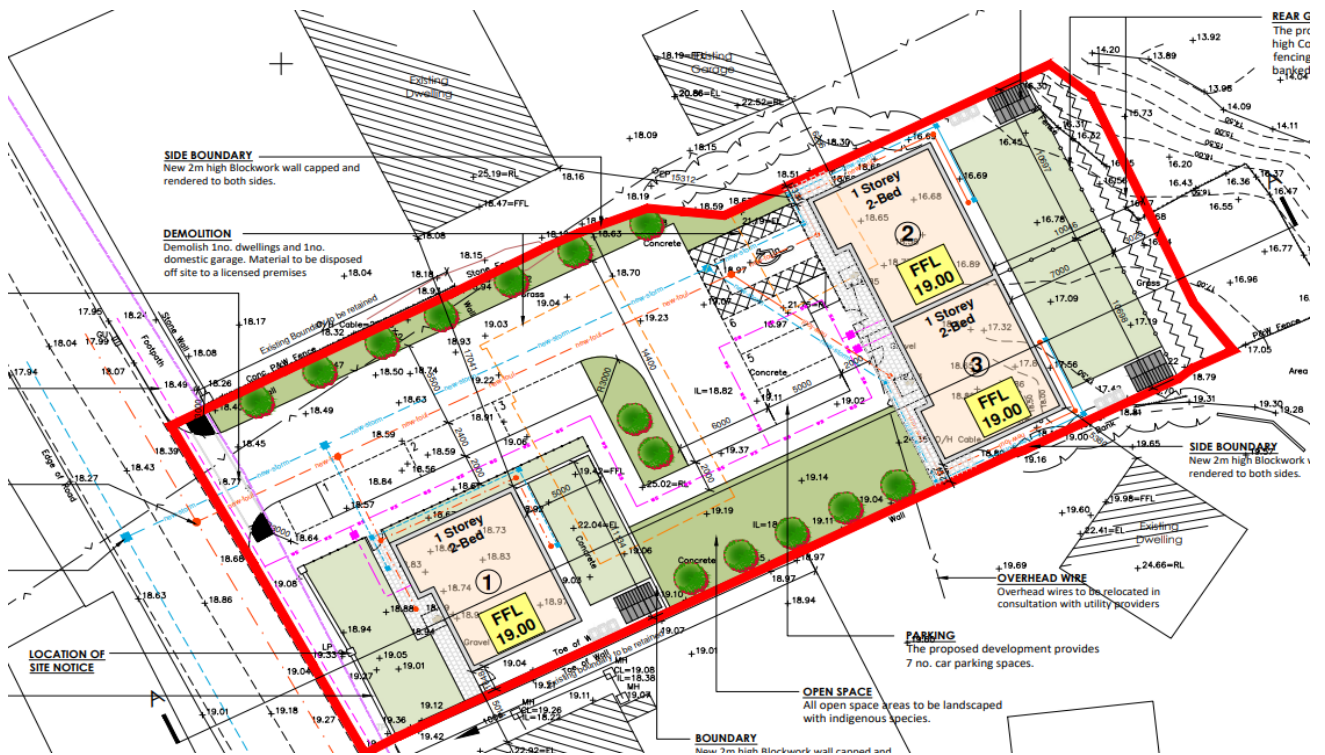
Donegal County Council is currently progressing the following proposed social housing development in the Glenties Municipal District:

Location	Status	No. of Units
<b>Completed</b>		
Dunfanaghy	Completed. Properties now let.	4
SI at Loughanure	Completed. Property now let.	1
SI at Annagry	Completed. Property now let.	1
<b>Design Stage</b>		
Chapel Road, Dungloe	<p>Ground Investigation work complete with findings being reviewed by civil structural consultant.</p> <p>Fire Certificate and DAC have been granted.</p> <p>Following completion of the full design package (with input from appointed Consultants) approval will be sought from the Department in April 2023 in advance of tendering.</p> <p>Please see image 1 below, of proposed site layout plan.</p>	45
Masiness, Creeslough	<p>Single Stage Approval was received from the Department on 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2023.</p> <p>Part 8 planning application lodged 14<sup>th</sup> January 2023 and to be presented for approval at the March plenary meeting.</p> <p>Please see image 2 below, of proposed site layout plan.</p>	3
Glenties (Fire Station)	Preliminary design stage complete. Progressing Part 8 and Single Stage Application to the Department for approval.	3
<b>Total</b>		<b>57</b>

**Image 1: - Site Layout Plan for 45 units at Chapel Rd, Dungloe**



**Image 2 – Proposed Site Layout Plan for 3 no units at Masiness, Creeslough**





## **2. Social Housing through Turnkey Acquisition**

Donegal County Council's turnkey acquisition process is continuing throughout the county. This competitive dialogue procurement process will result in a major capital investment in social housing and initial projects have now completed. This is a very effective mechanism enabling the Council to feed into the design of the proposal to ensure that the end product is suitable for the needs of social housing tenants. Proposals are subject to meeting the requirements of the procurement process, planning, departmental approval and contract.

The Council has obtained Stage 3 approval from the Department of Housing for the proposed turnkey acquisition at Gweedore. This proposal is for a total of 29 social housing units. The Council is currently working with the Developer to obtain detailed drawings and specifications in advance of proceeding to final tender stage. Members will be kept informed of progress on this proposal.

## **3. Emergency Housing Response to Creeslough**

As part of the Council's overall response to support the community of Creeslough following the devastating explosion which occurred in October 2022, a housing response has been identified. The Council is working with Developer Charles Roarty to provide 11 no. social housing units on lands in Creeslough. Planning permission and Irish Water approval have been obtained. Approval from the Department of Housing has also been sought and obtained via the single stage approval process. Housing Capital is now working with the Developer to obtain and review detailed drawings and specifications of the proposal. The proposal remains subject to contract.

## **4. Lands / Property for Social Housing Purposes**

The Council is planning to develop further projects on existing landbank in various locations throughout the county. Preliminary designs are underway for a number of these sites and are informed by the pertaining approved social housing need at local level.

In tandem with the construction programme outlined in Section 1 above, the Council is actively pursuing the acquisition of lands suitable for housing purposes, in towns and villages where there is currently not a social housing solution available. The acquisition of 2.91 acres of land at Dunfanaghy with potential for 30 houses is currently at conveyance stage.

In addition to the current expression of interest advertisement on the Councils' website for parcels of land, derelict sites / buildings with the potential to deliver social housing, the Council is also separately identifying parcels of land with social housing potential in areas of need.

A number of suitable parcels of land have been identified across the Glenties MD and engagement / negotiations are ongoing directly with landowners / agents, to acquire these lands. In this regard the Council has already made 3 offers which are under consideration by the respective landowners.



Property Management  
Milford PSC  
Main Street  
Milford  
Co Donegal

6<sup>th</sup> March 2023

To: **EACH MEMBER OF THE GLENTIES MUNICIPAL DISTRICT**

***Proposal to Dispose of Former Glenties Courthouse Mill Road, Glenties by way of Lease***

Dear Councillor,

Donegal County Council proposes to lease the former Courthouse at Mill Road, Glenties together with enclosed yard to the Brian Friel Trust CLG. The Courthouse building is a Protected Structure of regional significance and is of architectural, artistic and social interest. The proposal by the Brian Friel Trust is to reuse the Courthouse as the Brian Friel Centre which will serve as a local and visitor attraction to the area.

The Courthouse was originally constructed in 1843 by the Grand Jury and the ownership of the property was subsequently transferred to Donegal County Council pursuant to the provisions of Article 15 of the Schedule to the Local Government (Application of Enactments) Order 1898.

The property is outlined by means of a red line on the attached map, drawing No. PM39/PC/001.

It is now proposed to lease the property to Brian Friel Trust CLG subject to the following conditions: -

1. A lease period of 99 years from the date of execution
2. The property to be used as: -
  - A Brian Friel Centre honouring his rich cultural, artistic and literary legacy
3. An annual rent of €100
4. Brian Friel Trust CLG being responsible for: -
  - Payment of registration fees, stamp duty and their own legal costs associated with the lease
  - Indemnifying the Council from and against all actions, proceedings, claims, demands, losses, costs, expenses, damages, and liability arising directly or indirectly from: -
    - any breach by them of any of the provisions of the lease.

- the use of or works carried out on or to the property during the period of the lease and
- any act, neglect or default by them or any person on the property with their actual or implied authority.

As the rent that is proposed in this case is not the best reasonably obtainable but rather a nominal sum, there are special provisions that apply in relation to the proposal. Section 211 of the Planning & Development Act 2000 specifies inter alia that the consent of the Minister for the Environment and Local Government shall be required for any lease in case the rent is not the best reasonably obtainable **except** in such circumstances which may be specified in regulations which the Minister may make providing for such a disposal without such consent and subject to compliance with such conditions as may be so specified.

Article 206 (1) of the Planning & Development Regulations 2001 specifies the circumstances in which a disposal by way of such a lease (where the rent is not the best reasonably obtainable) may be granted without the consent of the Minister - where a local authority is of the opinion that, for economic or social reasons, it is reasonable to do so. Article 206 (2) of the said Regulations specifies the conditions which apply and must be complied with in relation to any such disposal and these require: -

- a) The preparation of a report setting out the economic or social reasons which apply in relation to the disposal;
- b) The report specified at a) above to be incorporated in / accompany the Notice to be issued to the Members pursuant to Section 183 of the Local Government Act 2001; and
- c) The report specified at a) above and the Notice to be issued to the Members pursuant to Section 183 of the Local Government Act 2001 to be made available for public inspection at the offices of the Council during office hours for a period of one year

While the rent that is proposed in this case is not the best reasonably obtainable but rather a nominal sum, it is nonetheless believed that, for economic and social reasons, it is reasonable that the disposal be carried out in accordance with the conditions specified at numbers 1 to 4 above. The economic and social reasons which apply in relation to the proposed disposal are: -The proposal by the Brian Friel Trust to re-use the Courthouse as the Brian Friel Centre will result in the development of a significant local and visitor attraction that will reinforce community pride in Glenties' literary associations and support the cultural programmes of Glenties' annual festivals that include the MacGill Summer School, the Glenties Harvest Fair and Heritage Week. Under the proposed lease agreement, public access to Glenties Courthouse will be provided for not less than 60 days in any calendar year.

Brian Friel (1929-2015) was the best-known Irish playwright of his generation and an accomplished short-story writer who had a strong affection for County Donegal. Many of his internationally-renowned works are set in the fictional Ballybeg, based on Glenties,

where his mother's family home is located (The Laurels). The proposal to re-develop Glenties Courthouse will also complement and contribute to the conservation and re-use of The Laurels which is proposed as part of a separate but related development. The Laurels itself is also a Protected Structure (#40907430) of national significance in the guardianship of the Brian Friel Trust. Brian Friel's international reputation and the development of a Brian Friel Centre has the potential to increase the number of visitors and tourists to the town thus supporting other local businesses especially in the service sector

The matter is now being brought before the Municipal District Members for approval prior to the issue of contracts to the purchasers / formal Notice under Section 211 of the Planning & Development Act 2000 and Section 183 of the Local Government Act 2001 to the full Council.

Yours sincerely

C. McCleary  
**Senior Staff Officer**

*Encl: Map showing land to be disposed of*

PM39/PC/001

Glenties

Dr. Mc Closkey  
Crescent

Stone Park

Area under construction

